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THE ANGLO-SAXON POEMS OF

BEOWULF

THE TRAVELLERS SONG AND THE BATTLE OF FINNESBURH

EDITED

BY JOHN M. KEMBLE ESQ. M.A.

OF TRINITY COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE FELLOW OF THE KONUNGLIGA NORRÆNA FORNFRÆDA FELAG

SECOND EDITION.

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TO JAMES GRIMM.

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PREFACE.

Very few words will, it is hoped, be necessary to justify the present publication. At this time, when a little more attention seems to be paid to the old feeling of England than heretofore; when, under the patronage of the government, one of our most distinguished scholars is occupied in reproducing the laws and annals of our ancestors; when too the Antiquarian Society have broken ground so nobly with their Cædmon; it is thought that this correct, lively, and most interesting record of the superstitions, the hero-life, and the domestic habits of society in a remote age will not be without its value.

It is remarkable that no notice whatever is taken of this fine poem by any Anglo-Saxon author: and although this is partly to be attributed to theological causes, it also furnishes a presumption that the

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invention of the work did not fall within the period embraced by their writings. In the absence therefore of all direct testimony, we must content ourselves with such an approximation as internal evidence will allow us to make, to the place and period which may claim the honour of its production. The date of the events described in Beówulf is the middle of the fifth century: Hróðgár[1] and Halga, two of the Danish kings actually reigning at the time, being, as recorded in our poem, the sons and successors of Healfdene the second. As I shall have occasion to refer more than once to the story of these princes, I will give as much of their pedigree as is necessary in order to put the reader clearly in possession of the requisite knowledge. Fróda IV. reigned over Denmark, including most of the islands and the southernmost portion of the Scanian peninsula, A. D. 370. His sons were, 1. Ingeld. 2. Healfdene the

[1] These are the Anglo-Saxon names of the princes, which, as they are used in the poem, I preferred giving. In the Danish historians we have Hroar, Helgi, Ingiald, Frodi, &c.

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second. 3. Fróda V.[2] According to our poem, l. 117, Healfdene had four children, Heorogár, Hróðgár, Halga, and Elan, a princess. Of these, Hróðgár and Halga reigned together in Scania:[3] and according to Suhm,[4] Ingeld was king in Sieland. Johannes Magnus,[5] and Saxo Grammaticus[6] agree in making Ingeld contemporary

[2] Saxo Grammaticus, who puts all these kings at a period far too early, and moreover attributes to Healfdene the crime of Fróda, calls Healfdene's brothers Roe and Scato, and his sons, Roe and Helgo. Book ii. p. 27, fol. Hafn. 1644. In doing this he commits the error of confounding Fróda IV., Healfdene's father, with Fróda I. who reigned in the first century. Gheysmer, in his Comp. Hist. Dan, written in 1431, copied the blunder; he gives the pedigree thus; Frotho IV, Halfdanus, Ro, Scathus: and again from Healfdene, Ro, and Helgius, *vid.* Langebeke. Script. Rer. Dan. medii ævi. vol. ii. p. 295. fol. Hafn. 1772. In general the different histories agree very well with the account given in the text. It is however observable that Heorogár and Elan are found in no one of the Norse genealogies.

[3] Holberg. Dannemark's Riges. Hist. vol. i. p. 49. 4to. Hafn. 1762.

[4] Historie af Danmark, p. 28. 8vo. Hafn. 1776.

[5] Hist. Gothorum. p. 174, fol. Paris, 1554.

[6] Hist. Dan. Book vi. p. 107.

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with Healfdene: but then they not only give us a double set of Healfdenes, the successors of Fróda I. and Froda IV. but also make Halga king of Norway, and Healfdene of Sweden; which according to the Heimskringla,[7] and to our poem, l. 4956, was in the power of Eadgils.[8] The history of Hrolf Kraki, Halga's son,[9]

[7] Snorro Sturleson. Heimskringla, Hist. Reg. Norweg. Ed. Schöning. fol. Hafn. 1777. vid. vol. i. Ynglinga Saga. xxx. xxxii.

[8] This prince, the Adils of Snorro, and Athislus of others, had only a divided rule. According to our text, Ongentheów and his son Ohtere, (probably the famous Hother of Danish tradition, the Havdr of the Vavlv-spa,) were his rivals; Saxo, B. iii. p. 39, in contradiction to the Saxon legend which represents the family of Ongentheów as at feud with Eadgils, makes Hother and Adils brothers. The "Song of the Traveller," l. 62, also gives to Ongentheów the kingdom of Suionia. Torfæus. Series Dyn. et Reg. Daniæ. 4to. Hafn. 1702, p. 235, differs but little from me. He gives as contemporary with Ingeld and Healfdene, i. e. A. D. 387. Eigils, a Swedish king; but Adils contemporary, as he no doubt was, with Halga, A. D. 450. Between these, A. D. 410, stands Ottar, probably our Ohtere.

[9] Ed. Torfæi. 8vo. Hafn. 1715. The Norse account of Hrolf is that he was Halga's son; it is

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which is adopted both by Torfæus and Holberg, agrees with our poem, l. 4223, in giving Fróda V. who having murdered his brother Healfdene, was in his turn surprised and burnt to death by Hróðgár and Halga, leaving, according to our poem, a son, probably Hróðwulf,[1] with whom Hróðgár made a lasting peace, giving him to wife his own daughter Freáware, and associating him with himself in the kingly dignity. In the episode of Beówulf, from which we learn these particulars, Ingeld is mentioned as the woman-lover, and so answers to the character given of him by Saxo and Johannes Magnus: the arousing him from his state of lethargic luxury, by the remonstrances of his foster-father, (the famous Starcather,) seems to be referred to in l. 4260, et seq: and the recovery of his sword, (a legend there also mentioned, but with the details of which I am unacquainted,) is

however probable that the author of Beówulf considered him to be Fróda's son, as there can be little doubt that he is the Hróðwulf of l. 2027, et seq. and the glæd sunu Fródan of l. 4046.

[1] Vid. Trav. Song, l. 89, &c.

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the subject of an allusion in the Traveller's Song. l. 95; perhaps this was from the sons of Swerting, by whom Fróda IV. was slain. It is worthy of observation, that although all the Norse genealogies,[2] with the exception of the Flatey Codex where Halga is omitted, agree in making Hróðgár and himself partners in the kingdom, yet the Norse tradition is nearly universal, that after a time, Hróðgár, in consideration of large sums of gold, relinquished his share of it, and betook himself elsewhere;[3] hence we hear but little of Halga throughout the poem: one account, however, asserts that they so divided the realm, that Hróðgár became lord of all the land, Halga of the water, that the latter was a famous sea-king, and that subsequently to the partition, Hróðgár altered the place of his metropolis, and founded Roskeldia, whence no doubt the story in our poem, of the building of Heort. According to Torfæus, who I think puts these kings a little too late, Hróðgár was born, A. D. 444, and began

[2] In Langebeke. Script. Dan. vols. i. and ii.

[3] The story generally says to Northumberland.

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to reign, A. D. 460. This, when we consider the traditional nature of the whole matter, agrees well enough with the Song of the Traveller, which makes Hróðgár contemporary with Hermanaric the Ostro-Goth, with the Burgundian Gúðhere, (the Gundebald of Greg. Turon. Gundicar of Prosper. Aquit. Gunnar of the Edda Sæmundar and Gunther of the Nibel. Nót.) and with Attila the Hun; consequently also with Sígmund the Wælsing, the Sífrít of the Nibel. Nót. the Sigurdr Fafnisbani of the Edda. Sæm. and whose slaughter of the dragon and other adventures, related in the Scóp's song, (Beów. l. 1750,) are expressly stated to have been as yet unknown to his hearers.

So much for the Danish princes; a far more interesting question however remains: who was the hero of the poem, Beówulf the Geát? Perhaps had the Skioldungar Saga, mentioned by Snorro[4] in the Heimskringla, come down to us, we should have had no difficulty in answering the

[4] Ynglinga Saga, xxxiii.

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question: as it is, much must be left to conjecture. I am, however, of opinion that he was an Angle of Jutland or Sleswic, for he was the friend and nephew of Hygelác, whose father Hreðel succeeded Offa on the Angle throne: according to Norse tradition this Offa (Uffi) was the son, according to our poem the nephew, of Gármund (Wermund) his predecessor. Wermund, Uffi and Huhlék are in various Norse genealogies, published by Langebeke, placed immediately after Hrolf Kraki (Halga's son); but as it is quite certain that they never reigned in Denmark at all, and as the writers of these genealogies constantly put down in their lists the contemporary kings of neighbouring lands,[5] I consider those princes to have reigned in that order in Anglen during the periods of Fróda IV. Healfdene II. and Hróðgár in Denmark. Torfæus,

[5] The list of successions, for instance, in vol. i. p. 15, of the Script. Dan. forces fifty-two kings into a space of 276 years from Hróðgár to Ragnar Lodbrog, i.e. rather more than five years and three months for each reign, without reckoning the interregnum.

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not knowing what to do with them in Denmark, at the time assigned for their existence by every tradition with which I am acquainted, and probably deceived by some such mistaken supposition as has made Professor Conybeare (Illust. of Anglo-Saxon Poetry,) consider Healfdene as the *immediate* successor of Beówulf the son of Scyld, the son of Scéf,[6] assigns Gármund to A.D. 62. As he has chosen here to follow the incorrect Norse traditions, he was obliged to put this prince, whom he looked upon as a Dane, as far back as the first century, in order to get him into his list at all: and on this account, as well as some others, I hold 444 to be really too late for Hróðgár's birth, and

[6] Nothing is more common in traditional history, than the mention of the earliest progenitors of a race, as the immediate predecessors of the person whose exploits are in course of celebration: thus Cæsar was called the son of Venus. One cannot have a better example of this than the following line of succession: 1. Skiold. 2. Frod. 3. Halfdan. 4. Helgi. Swen Aggo. Hist. of Sweeden, in the Script. Rer. Dan. i. p. 45, yet this wants only the Scylding Beówulf to be full as complete as the succession given in our own poem.

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that he was in fact, as stated by the Song of the Traveller, very nearly contemporary with Hermanaric, a supposition which coincides rather better with the probable date of Gármund's reign. Matthew Paris[7] in his life of Offa, the king of East Anglia, which he falsely believed to be in England, gives the legend of Gármund and Offa as it is found in Johannes Magnus and Saxo[8] with all its marvellous details: and John of Brompton supplies us with the following line of Offa's pedigree: Woden, Wiclæt, Wermond, Offa, Dengelt, while in the Danish genealogies, in general it stands, Wiglet, Wermund, Ubbo, Dan II, and in one Runic record[9] we have Wisleth, Wermund, Uffi, Dan, Huhlek. From all this, there cannot be a doubt that the Offa of Matthew Paris and John of Brompton is the Uffi, Ubbo, &c. of Norse tradition: that he is the Offa of our poem, also, is evident from l. 3916, where a clear allusion is made to his dulness, until roused into action by the necessities of his people.

[7] Watts, ed. fol. 1671.
[8] P. 59.
[9] Script. Dan. vol. i. p. 33.

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Suhm cannot therefore, I think, be right in placing Gármund and Offa, whom by the way, he also considers to be Angle princes, as early as the third century. If now the traditions of our Saxon forefathers, brought with them to Britain; if the impossibility of putting Gármund, Offa and Hygelác into the catalogue of Danish kings, without going back to the first century, and so giving the lie to the poems of Beówulf and the Traveller's Song, as well as the dates supposed by Matthew Paris and John of Brompton;[1] finally, if the consideration of these kings falsely so inserted in the Danish lists, to be contemporaries and not parts of the succession, warrant us in asserting them to have flourished in Sleswic and Jutland, during the reigns of Hróðgár in Denmark, of Eadgils and Ohtere in Sweeden, we shall have a very sober and satisfactory account to give of the titles by which Beówulf is an Anglo-Saxon poem. Many minor circumstances conspire to render it probable that we owe it to Anglia; as for

[1] John of Brompton places Offa II. A. D. 757, about twelve generations later than the first Offa.

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instance, the high terms of praise in which Offa is mentioned; both our poem and the Traveller's Song, describing him at some length as one of the most powerful and glorious of kings. But above all, the utter ignorance manifested by the author of Beówulf of all the minuter traditions current in Denmark; the German, far more than the Norse version of Sigurdr's story, which coincides closely enough with the Nibelunge Nôt, and rejects the contents of nearly the whole second volume of the Edda Sæmundar: the selection of an Angle or Geát, (for the Angles called themselves Geáts also,) as the hero of the adventure; and the Saxon form of all the proper names,[2] unite in taking our story entirely out of the circle of Northern Sagas. The opinion thus formed from observation of the dynasties, obtains confirmation from occasional geographical

[2] Without running foul of etymology, which quite as much as the resemblance of proper names is a *gewöhnliche Klippe unkritischer köpfe* (Zahn. Vorrede. zu Ulfilas), we may observe that Huhlék is quite as little a Norse as an Anglo-Saxon form of Hygelács name. It is Old Saxon, that is, consonant to the form of speech north of the Elbe.

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allusions in the poem. Thus the mention of the realm ruled by Beówulf and Hygelác as an island, which agrees very well with the nature of Sleswic, excludes Thorkelin's supposition that they dwelt in Pomerania; and is equally conclusive against their being inhabitants of East or West Gautland; the more so, as our Geáts are separated from the Sweónes by a wide sea, (l. 5117) while the Gauts and Sweónes are conterminal. Moreover Heaðo-ræmis, where Brecca when beaten by Beówulf on the main sea, took refuge, is the island of Rom (Romes-æ), off the north-western coast of Sleswic, nearly opposite to which, and not far inland, Ravenslund and Ravensberg, yet retain a record of Hygelác's capital, Hrafnesholt.

It is remarkable that neither in Beówulf nor in the Traveller's Song, a professed record of realms and dynasties, and apparently the composition of a contemporary of Hermanaríc[3] and Gunther, is the

[3] The poet was of high birth among the Myrgings a border tribe of the Swæfas (Suevi) who appear in

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slightest mention made of Britain: moreover, the latter of these poems seems fixed as an Angle work, not only by the praises with which Offa is mentioned, but by the manner in which the poet defines Hermanaríc's empire: he says it was "eastan of Ongle," i. e. to the eastward from Anglen, which, though it would answer the purpose of a description very well if Angles were his hearers, would not have been clear at all to Englishmen, who

his time to have generally acknowledged the power of Offa. More than one circumstance, however, compels us to conclude that later transcribers added to the work of Hermanaríc's contemporary: not only is the insertion of several nations only known in Europe through the Bible, and the distinction between Hebrews and Israelites, suspicious, but the mention of Theodoríc the king of the Franks, if by this prince the son of Chlodowíc be meant, places the line in which his name occurs later at least than A. D. 480. At the same time, the nomention, or, if he be meant in l. 230, the very cursory mention of Theodoríc the Amaling, shows that even in the time of the transcriber the mighty deeds of the Ostro-Gothic king, so favorite a hero in the Eddaic, Nibelungen, and Wilkina Sagas, had not become known to the Nordalbingii, the Saxons beyond the Elbe.

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would look for Anglia in Norfolk. From all this, I infer that Beówulf records the exploits of one of our own forefathers, not far removed in point of time from the coming of Hengest and Hors into Britain: and that the poem was probably brought hither by some of those Anglo-Saxons who, in A. D. 495, accompanied Cerdic and Cynerík. For we well know how little time it requires to transform authentic history into the most fantastic traditions, especially among people whose belief in Jutes and dragons is sucked in with their mother's milk. Nor is the absence of all allusion to these events in our Anglo-Saxon historians at all to be wondered at; for Hengest and other Anglo-Saxons who came to England, though deriving their blood through many generations from the first royal progenitors of all the Angle and Danish kings, from Sceáf, Scyld, and Beówulf the Scylding,[4] were certainly not of the reigning family

[4] Gulielm. Malmesb., Cott. MS. Claud. C. i. fol. 33, and the Islandic "Langfedgatal." Script, Dan. vol. i.

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at the time. In Florence of Worcester[5] the line of Penda leaves that of Hygelác at Offa, whose son Angengeát (or according to the Chron. Saxon. An. 626, Angelþeów,) was Cnebba's direct progenitor through Eomer, while through another son Wihta he was the ancestor of Hengest and the Kentish kings. Suhm, I think without sufficient authority for the one or the other, makes out Angengeát and Angelþeów to be names of Hygelác, and puts him at least a century and a half earlier than Hengest; I have I trust rendered it probable that on the contrary Beówulf was nearly Hengest's contemporary.

The poem contained in the Cott. MS. *Vitellius. A.* xv, and of which as accurate a copy as I could make is now presented to the reader, is, no doubt, not in its present form referable to so high an antiquity. In spite of its generally heathen character there occur in it Christian allusions which fix this text at least at a period subsequent to A. D. 597. But it

[5] Fol. ed. 1605. p. 557.

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is also obvious that an older and far completer poem has once existed; of which, the numerous blunders both in sense and versification, the occurrence of archaic forms found in no other Anglo-Saxon work, and the cursory allusions to events which to the Anglo-Saxons after their departure from Sleswic must soon have become unintelligible, are convincing proofs that our present text is only a copy, and a careless copy too. Indeed the fact that as early as the third century, the Jutes, Angles, and Saxons of Holstein were united into one people is well known: and as no one at all acquainted with the Anglo-Saxon language, its great completeness, and the manner in which its hidden laws influence every one of its developements, can listen for a moment to the preposterous story of its being a *rifacciamento* of languages, it is more than probable that the tongue spoken by Hengest in Sleswic, was that of Ælfred the king, four centuries later, such provincial variations only being disregarded as always subsist in every stage of a language. To suppose the Anglo-Saxon

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derived from a mixture of Old Saxon and Danish, is at once to stamp oneself ignorant both of Old Saxon, Old Norse, and Anglo-Saxon, and to declare one's incompetency to pass a judgment upon the subject. I do not say that the poem which is now published was not written in England; but I say that the older poem, of which this is a modernized form, was shaped upon Angle legends, celebrates an Angle hero, and was in all probability both written in Anglen, and brought hither by some of the earliest Anglo-Saxon chieftains who settled upon our shores. The necessity of compressing within narrow limits what I had to say upon this very interesting subject, has compelled me to omit a multitude of remarks which would throw light upon the historical portion of Beówulf; the more important of these will, however, be found in the index of proper names.

The MS. of Beówulf consists of two portions, written in very different hands, and differing very considerably in language: of these, the former portion is far the older, and serves to show that some

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few peculiarities of the Anglo-Saxon tongue which are found neither in Gothic, Old high Dutch, Old Norse, nor Old Saxon, were even among us gradually introduced by time; such for example is the *ëa* which finally superseded *a* before *h* and *l* and certain combinations of these letters. Had I been able to complete my original plan, all these would have been carefully noted; as it is, I must content myself with recommending my reader to study the profound work of that great scholar to whom this book is dedicated; and of which I do not hesitate to say, that the *Deutsche Grammatik* is one of the most wonderful specimens of industry and philological acumen that are preserved in the records of man.

With respect to the texts here given I wish to add a few words. All persons who have had much experience of Anglo-Saxon MSS. know how hopelessly incorrect they in general are; when every allowance has been made for date and dialect, and even for the etymological ignorance of early times, we are yet met at every turn with faults of grammar,

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with omissions or redundancies of letters and words, which can perhaps only be accounted for by the supposition that professional copyists brought to their task (in itself confusing enough,) both lack of knowledge, and lack of care. A modern edition, made by a person really conversant with the language which he illustrates, will in all probability be much more like the original than the MS. copy, which, even in the earliest times, was made by an ignorant or indolent transcriber. But while he makes the necessary corrections, no man is justified in withholding the original readings: for although the laws of a language, ascertained by wide and careful examination of all the cognate tongues, of the hidden springs and ground-principles upon which they rest in common, are like the laws of the Medes and Persians and alter not, yet the very errors of the old writer are valuable, and serve sometimes as guides and clues to the inner being and spiritual tendencies of the language itself. The reader will moreover be spared that, to some people, heart-

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burning necessity of taking his editor's qualifications too much for granted, if side by side he is allowed to judge of the traditional error, and the proposed correction. I have endeavoured to accomplish this end by printing the text, letter for letter, as I found it; the corrections, which for the most part either the laws of the grammar or of the versification, suggest almost without possibility of error, are added at the foot of each page. The only exception to this, is the accentuation of the long vowels, which from its importance to the meaning of the words I have every where added, still however carefully distinguishing such as are found in the MS. by a *circumflex*. In cases where portions of the text have perished, which has happened unfortunately by the edge of almost every page, and which is a progressing evil, I have generally from conjecture (if conjecture it can be called, to restore letters to words whose form no scholar can doubt for a moment,) endeavoured to supply the deficiencies: such interpolations are all confined within

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brackets. Lastly where the MS. seemed to be hopelessly in fault I have marked the passage thus, †.

The Song of the Traveller, which throws so much light upon the historical parts of Beówulf, is found in fol. 84 of the Exeter MS. My text is given from an accurate and collated copy of that codex, now in the British Museum: it has moreover been most obligingly compared with his transcript from the original at Exeter, by my friend, B. Thorpe, Esq. The Battle of Finnes-burh, whose subject is also that of the second Scald's song in Beówulf, and which may possibly be a distorted record of Fróda the IVth's victorious inroad into Old Saxony, which ended with the death of the Frisian Hnæf near Hanover, is also added as a necessary portion of the Angle cyclus. The MS. however from which it was first published by Hickes is lost; and I have therefore been compelled to give only a copy of his text, with such corrections as appeared necessary in order to make grammar and sense of it.

I had once hoped to render this a

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useful book to all Anglo-Saxon scholars, and had therefore with great labour compiled a glossarial index including every word found in the poem, carefully noting the gender, etc. of each. The great length which this attained rendered it necessary to curtail it; and as no reason existed for retaining one word which did not apply with equal force to every other, I finally determined upon excluding all save such as were very rare and difficult, or were introduced in an unusual sense.[6] My book has lost thereby some of its value in my eyes: for Lye's Dictionary, (the only one we have,) though for the time when it appeared, a praiseworthy book, does not meet the demands of the far more learned scholars of our day. No one of the difficult words which occur in Beówulf, which Lye had not read, or in the Codex Exon. which he said he had read, is to be found in his dictionary: not only is the absence of all distinction between long and short vowels a great failing, but the constant omission of important syllables,

[6] This has now been remedied in the second volume.

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the putting genitives, datives, and accusatives into the text as forms of the nominative, and above all the want of scholarlike discrimination between true and corrupt readings in MSS., render his book merely a snare to the unwary. Those who have studied in the deep school of Teutonic Philology, the sound iron-bound system of comparative etymology acted upon by J. Grimm and Rask, know this; and till a better word-book is compiled than has hitherto appeared, with them that knowledge will remain. To them therefore is this edition of Beówulf more especially addressed.

The only complete edition of Beówulf hitherto published, is that of Grimus J. Thorkelin, 4to. Hafn. 1815; but portions of the poem have appeared in the works of Conybeare and Sharon Turner: and a spirited paraphrase of it has been given in Denmark under the title of "Bjowulf's Drape et Gothisk Helte-Digt fra forrige Aar-Tusinde af Angel-Saxisk paa Danske riim ved. N. F. S. Grundtwig." 8vo. Hafn. 1820. It does not beseem one editor to undervalue the labours of another,

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yet when a book appears, graced with an imposing name, there is danger lest by concealment of the truth the general cause of learning be made to suffer. Nothing but malevolence could cavil at the trivial errors which the very best scholars are daily found to commit, but the case is widely different when those errors are so numerous as totally to destroy the value of a work. I am therefore most reluctantly compelled to state that not five lines of Thorkelin's edition can be found in succession, in which some gross fault either in the transcript or the translation, does not betray the editor's utter ignorance of the Anglo-Saxon language. Even the works of Mr. Turner and Professor Conybeare, although in some respects immeasurably superior to Thorkelin's, are marked with mistranslations and false readings of no light kind.

I turn from the hateful occupation of finding fault, to one which fills me with unmixed pleasure: it is the expression of my grateful thanks to those whose assistance has been freely given to me during the progress of my labours. To his Grace

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the putting genitives, datives, and accusatives into the text as forms of the nominative, and above all the want of scholarlike discrimination between true and corrupt readings in MSS., render his book merely a snare to the unwary. Those who have studied in the deep school of Teutonic Philology, the sound iron-bound system of comparative etymology acted upon by J. Grimm and Rask, know this; and till a better word-book is compiled than has hitherto appeared, with them that knowledge will remain. To them therefore is this edition of Beówulf more especially addressed.

The only complete edition of Beówulf hitherto published, is that of Grimus J. Thorkelin, 4to. Hafn. 1815; but portions of the poem have appeared in the works of Conybeare and Sharon Turner: and a spirited paraphrase of it has been given in Denmark under the title of "Bjowulf Drape et Gothisk Helte-Digt fra forrige Aar-Tusinde af Angel-Saxisk paa Dansk viim ved. N. F. S. Grundtwig." 8vo. Hafn. 1820. It does not beseem one editor to undervalue the labours of another

yet when a book appears, graced with an imposing name, there is danger lest by concealment of the truth the general cause of learning be made to suffer. Nothing but malevolence could cavil at the trivial errors which the very best scholars are daily found to commit, but the case is widely different when those errors are so numerous as totally to destroy the value of a work. I am therefore most reluctantly compelled to state that not five lines of Thorkelin's edition can be found in succession, in which some gross fault either in the transcript or the translation, does not betray the editor's utter ignorance of the Anglo-Saxon language. Even the works of Mr. Turner and Professor Conybeare, although in some respects immeasurably superior to Thorkelin's, are marked with mistranslations and false readings of no light kind.

I turn from the hateful occupation of finding fault, to one which fills me with unmixed pleasure: it is the expression of my grateful thanks to those whose assistance has [illegible]ely given to me during the pro[illegible] abo[illegible] his Grace

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the Archbishop of Canterbury, by whose permission, I, unhappily without success, searched the Lambeth Codices for the original of the Battle of Finnes-burh; and to the Rev. G. D' Oyly, whose ready aid during my search has converted what is perhaps a common civility paid to literary men, into a personal obligation to myself. To the Right Hon. the Countess of Dysart, who when I wished to consult a MS. copy of Ælfred's Orosius supposed to be in her possession, most obligingly permitted me to ransack the library at Ham. To the Master and Fellows of Trinity College, whose MS. library has been thrown open to me; and to the Rev. Drs. Lamb and Davy, whose liberal admission into their respective libraries has enabled me to clear up many lexicographical difficulties, which MSS. alone could remove. To B. Thorpe, Esq. who I hope needs no expression of my gratitude to convince him how sincerely and highly I honour his attainments in our common study. To my friend Jos. Stevenson, Esq. of the British Museum, to whose encouraging advice the public owe this work, and whom

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they have to thank for much of its correctness as a transcript, and for more than one illustration in the glossarial notes, which my own reading would not have enabled me to make. Had the entire glossary appeared these would have been more numerous, and always among the most valuable portions of it. But most of all to him, whose name it is my pride and pleasure to place at the head of this book; to whom I owe all the knowledge I possess, such as it is; and who has during the preparation of this work, expressed to me the liveliest interest, and afforded the friendliest assistance. The founder of that school of philology, which has converted etymological researches, once a chaos of accidents, into a logical and scientific system, will not refuse this tribute of admiration and respect from perhaps the first Englishman who has adopted and acted upon his views.

With this I take leave of my reader, exhorting him to judge this poem, not by the measure of our times and creeds, but those of the times which it describes; as a rude but very faithful picture of an age,

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wanting indeed in scientific knowledge, in mechanical expertness, even in refinement, but brave, generous and right-principled: assuring him of what I well know, that these echoes from the deserted temples of the past, if listened to in a sober and understanding spirit, bring with them matter both strengthening and purifying the heart:

ἔτι γὰρ θεόθεν καταπνέει
πειθῶ μολπᾶν
ἀλκὰν ξύμφυτον, ἀιών.

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BEOWULF.

Hwæt! We Gár-Dena [fol. 129]
in gear-dagum,
þeód-cyninga
þrym ge-frunon;
hú ðа æþelingas
ellen fremedon.
Oft Scyld Scéfing
sceaþen[a] þreátum,
monegu mægþum,
meodo-setla of-teáh,
egsode eorl
syððan ærest wearð
feá-sceaft funden:
he þæs frófre ge-bá[d];
weox under wolcnum,
weorð-myndum þáh,
oð þ him æg-hwylc
þara ymb-sittendra
ofer hron-rade
hýran scolde,
gomban gyldan:
þ wæs gód cyning.

10 setlu. 11 eorlas.

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Dǽm eafera wæs
æfter cenned
geóng in geardum,
þone God sende
folce tó frófre;
fyren-þearfe on-geat
þ híe ǽr drugon
aldor-[le]áse,
lange hwíle:
him þæs líf-freá,
wuldres wealdend,
worold-áre for-geaf.
Beó-wulf wæs breme
blæd wíde sprang
Scyldes eafera
Scede-landum in:
swa sceal [guð-fru]ma
góde ge-wircean,
fromum feoh-giftum,
on fæder [feo]rme, [fol. 129b.]
þ hine on ylde
eft ge-wunigen
wi[l]-ge-síþas,
þonne wíg cume.
Leóde ge-lǽsten
lóf-dǽdu sceal
in mægþa ge-hwǽre
man ge-þeón.

29 þe. 37 eaferan.

Him ðá Scyld ge wát
tó ge-scæp-hwíle,
fela-hror feran
on freán wære:
hí hýne þá æt-báron
tó brimes faroðe
swése ge-síþas
swá he selfa bæd,
þenden wordum weóld
wine Scyldinga,
leóf land-fruma;
lange áhte.
Dær æt hýðe stód
hringed-stefna,
ísig and út-fús,
æþelinges fær:
á-ledon þá
leófne þeóden,
beága bryttan,
on bearm scipes,
mærne be mæste;
þær wæs mádma fela,
of feor-wegum,
frætwa ge-læded.
Ne hýrde ic cymlicor
ceól ge-gyrwan
hilde-wæpnum,
and heaðo-wædum,
billum and byrnum;
him on bearme læg

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mádma menigo,
þa him mid scoldon
on flódes æht
feor ge-wítan.
Nalæs hí hine læssan
lácum teódan,
þeód-ge-streónum,
þon þa dydon
þe hine æt frum-sceafte
forð on-sendon,
ænne ofer ýðe,
umbor-wesende: [fol. 130]
þá gyt híe him á-setton
segen [gyl]denne
heáh ofer heáfod,
leton holm ber[an],
geafon on gár-secg;
him wæs geomor sefa,
murnende mód;
men ne cunnon
secgan tó sóðe,
séle-rædenne,
hæleð under heofenū,
hwá þæm hlæste on-feng.

I.

Dá wæs on burgum
Beó-wulf Scyldinga,

[96] teódon. [88] þoñ. (T.)
[92] umbor-wesendne.

leóf leód-cyning,
longe þrage,
folcum ge-fræge,
(fæder ellor hwearf,
aldor of earde,)
oþ þ him eft on-wóc
heáh Healf-dene;
heóld þenden lífde
gamol and gúð-reouw,
glæde Scyldingas.
Ðæm feower bearn
forð-ge-rímed
in worold wócun,
weoroda ræswa,
Heoro-gár and Hróð-gár
and Halga til,
hýrde ic þæt Elan cwén
. . . . . .
Heaðo-Scilfingas,
heals-ge-bedda.
Þá wæs Hróð-gáre
here-spéd gyfen
wíges weorð-mynd,
þ him his wine-magas
georne hýrdon,
oðð þ seó geógoð ge-weóx
mago-driht micel.
Hī on mód be-arn

119 wócon. 120 ræswan.
124 ofer sǽ sóhte. 132 oð.

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Þ heal-reced
hátan wolde,
[medo]-ærn micel, [fol. 130b.]
men ge-wyrcean,
þone yldo-[b]earn
æfre ge-frunon;
and þær on-innan
eall [g]e-dælan,
geóngum and ealdum,
swylc him God sealde,
buton folc-scare
and feorum gumena.
Ðá ic wíde ge-frægn
weorc ge-bannan
manigre mægþe,
geond þisne middan-geard,
folc-stede frætwan.
Him on fyrste gelomp,
ædre mid yldum,
Þ hit wearð eal gearo,
heal-ærna mæst;
scóp him Heort naman
se þe his wordes ge-weald
wíde hæfde.
He beót ne a-léh;
beágas dælde,
sinc æt symle;
sele hlifade;
heáh and horn-geáp
heaðo-wylma bád

165 láðan liges:
ne wæs hit lenge þá gen
þ se secg hête
áþum swerian;
æfter wæl-níðe
170 wæcnan scolde;
ðá se ellen-gæst
earfoð-líce
þrage geþolode,
se þe in þystrū bád,
þ he dogora ge-hwám
dreám ge-hýrde,
hlúdne in healle;
þær wæs hearpan swég
swútol sang scópes:
180 sægde se þe cúþe
frum-sceaft fira
feorran reccan,
cwæð þ se æl-mihtiga
eorðan w[orhte]
wlíte-beorhtne wang
swá wæter be-búgeð;
ge-sette sígè-hrepig
sunn[an] and monan,
leóman to leóhte
190 land-bú[en]dum;
and ge-frætwade
foldan sceátas
leomum and leáfum:
líf eác ge-sceóp

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cy[n]na ge-hwylcum
þára ðe cwice hwyrfaþ.
Swá ða driht-guman
dreámum lífd[on]
eádig-líce,
200 oððæt ân on-gan
fyrene fre[m]man
feónd on helle:
wæs se grimma gæst
Grendel háten,
mære mearc-stapa
se þe móras heóld,
fen and fæsten;
fífel-cynnes eard
won-sæli wer
210 weardode hwíle,
siþðan him scyppend
for-scrifen hæfde.
In Caines cynne
þone cwealm ge-wræc
éce drihten.
þes þe he Ábel slóg.
Ne ge-feáh he þære fæhðe,
ac he hine feor for-wræc,
metod for þý máne,
220 man-cynne fram:
þanon un-tydras
ealle on-wócon,

216 þæs. T.

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223 Eótenas and Ylfe
and Orcneas:
5 swylce gi[gantas] [132b.]
þá wiþ Gode wunnon,
lange þrage;
[he] him ðæs leán for-geald.

II.

229 [Ge]-wát ðá neósian,
230 syþðan niht be-com,
heán húses,
hú hit Hring-Dene
æfter [b]eór-þege
ge-bún hæfdon.
Fand þá ðær-inne
236 æþelinga ge-driht
swefan æfter symble;
sorge ne cúðon,
9 won-sceaft wera,
240 wiht un-hælo.
Grim and grædig
gearo sona wæs,
3 reóc and reþe,
4 and on ræste ge-nam
þritig þegna:
þanon eft ge-wât
húðe hrémig
tó hám faran,
mid þære wæl-fylle
250 wíca neósan.

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Þá wæs on uhtan,
mid ær-dæge,
Grendles gúð-cræft
gumum un-dyrne:
þá wæs æfter wiste
wôp up-á-hafen,
micel morgen-swég:
mære þeóden,
æþeling ær-gód,
un-blíðe sæt,
þolode ðryð-swyð;
þegn sorge ðreáh;
syðþan hie þæs láðan
last sceáwedon,
wergan gástes;
wæs þ ge-win tó strang
láð and long-sum.
Næs hit lengra [fyr]st,
ac ym[b] áne niht [133]
eft ge-fre[mede]
morð-beala máre,
and nó mearn fore[...],
fæhðe and fyrene;
wæs tó fæst on þám,
þ[á] wæs eáð-fynde
þe him elles-hwær
ge-rúmlicor ræste,
bed æfter búrum,

262 dreáh.

þá him ge-beácnod wæs.
280 Ge-sægd sóð-líce
sweó[to]lan tácne
2 heal-ðegnes hete;
heóld hynē syðþan
fyr and fæstor
se þǽm feónde æt-wand
6 Swá ríxode
and wið rihte wan,
ána wið eallum,
oð þ ídel stód
290 húsa sélest;
wǽs seó hwíl micel.
XII. wintra tíd
torn ge-þolode
wine Scyldenda,
5 weána ge-hwelcne,
sídra sorga;
for ðam [.....] wearð
ylda-bearnum
un-dyrne cúð,
300 gyddū geomore,
þǽtte Grendel wan;
hwíle wið Hróþ-gár
3 hete-níðas wæg,
fyrene and fǽhðe,
5 fela missera,
singale sǽce:

280 ge-sægde. 294 Scyldinga.
295 ge-hwylcne. 297 [syððan]. T.

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sibbe ne wolde
wiȝ manna hwone
mægenes Deniga,
310 feorh-bealo feorran
fea þingian :
ne þær nænig witena
wénan þorfte
beorhtre bóte
to banū folmū ;
. . . . . æg-læca [133b.]
7 ehtende wæs,
deorc deáþ-sc[ua],
[dú]guþe and geógoþe :
320 seómade and syrede,
[s]in-nihte heóld
mistige móras :
men ne [c]unnon
hwyder hel-rúnan
hwyrftum scríþaȝ.
Swa fela fyrena
feónd man-cynnes,
ȝátol ân-gengea,
oft ge-fremede,
330 heardra hynȝa :
Heorot eardode,
sinc-[f]ág̃e sel,
sweartum nihtum ;
nó he þone gif-stól

311 feo. 315 banan.
316 átol. T. 320 seómode.

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grétan moste,
máþðum, for metode,
ne his myne wisse :
þ wæs wræc micel.
Wine Scyldinga
móde brecðe
monig oft ge-sæt,
ríce tó rúne ;
ræd eahtedon,
hwæt swíð-ferhðum
sélest wære
wiðfær-grýru
tó ge-fremmanne.
Hwílum híe ge-héton
æt hrærg-trafum
wíg-weorðunga ;
wordum bædon
þ him gæst-bona
geóce ge-fremede,
wiðþeód-þreáum.
Swylc wæs þeáw hyra,
hæþenra hyht ;
helle ge-mundon
in mód-sefan,
metod híe ne cúþon
dæda démend,
ne wiston híe drihten God :
. . . . . [134]
huru heofena helm

349 hearg-trafum.

herian [ne] cúþon,
wuldres waldend.
Wá bið þǽm ðe sceal
þurh slíðne níð
sáwle be-scúfa[n],
in fýres fǽþm;
frófre ne wénan
wihte ge-wendan:
wel bið þǽm þe mót
ǽfter deáð-dage
drihten sécean,
and tó fǽder fǽþmum
freoðo wilnian.

III.

Swá ða mǽl-ceare
maga Healf-denes
singala seáð:
ne mihte snotor hǽleð
weán on-wendan
wǽs þ ge-win tó swýð,
láþ and long-sum,
þe on ða leóde be-com,
nýd-wracu níþ-grim
niht-bealwa mǽst.
Ðǽt fram hám ge-frǽgn
Híge-laces þegn,
gód mid Geátum,
Grendles dǽda;

dǽge.

390 se wæs mon-cynnes
mægenes strengest
on þǽm dæge
þysses lífes,
æþele and eácen.
5 Hét him ýð-lidan
gódne ge-gyrwan;
cwǽð he gúð-cyning
ofer swan-ráde
sécean wolde,
400 mǽrne þeóden,
þá him wæs manna þearf.
Ðone síð-fæt him
snotere ceorlas
lyt-hwon logon,
[þeà]h he him leóf wǽre: [134b]
hwetton hige.....
hǽl sceàwedon,
hæfde se góda
Geáta leóda
410 cempan gecorone,
þára þe he cénoste
findan mihte:
xvns sum
sund-wudu sóhte;
secg wísade,
6 lagu-creftig mon,
land-ge-myrcu.

410 gecorene.

Fyrst forð ge-wât,
flóta wæs on ýðum,
bât under beorge;
beornas gearwe
on stefn stigon;
streámas wundon,
sund wiðð sande;
secgas bæron
in bearm nacan
beorhte frætwe,
gúð-searo geato-líc;
guman út-scufon,
weras on wil-síð,
wudu bundenne.
Ge-wât þæ ofer wæg-holm,
winde ge-fýsed,
flóta fámi-heals,
fugle ge-lícost,
oð þ ymb án-tíd
óþres dogores,
wunden stefna
ge-waden hæfde,
þ ða líðende
land ge-sawon,
brim-clifu blican,
beorgas steápe,
síde sæ-næssas:
þá wæs sund liden

432 þá. 434 fámig-h.

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eóletes æt ende:
þanon úp hraðe
Wedera leóde
on wang stigon;
450 sæ-wudu sældon,
syrcan hrysedon,
gúð-ge-wædo:
Gode þancedon
þæs þe him ýþ-láde
eáðe wurdon.
[Ðá] of wealle ge-seah [135]
weard Scildinga,
se þe [holm]-clifu
healdan scolde,
460 beran ofer bolcan
beorhte randas,
fyrd-searu fús-lícu:
hine fyr-wyt bræc
mód-ge-hygdum
hwæt þa men wæron.
Gewát him þá tó waroðe
wicge ríd[an];
þegn Hróð-gáres
þrymmum cwehte
470 mægen-wudu mundum,
méþel-wordum frægn:
hwæt syndon ge
searo-hæbbendra
byrnum wer[e]de,
þe þus brontne ceól

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476 ofer lagu-stræte
lædan cwomon,
hider ofer holmas?
Ie wæs ende-sæta
480 æg-wearde heóld,
þe on land Dena
láðra nænig
midscip-herge
sceðþan ne meahte.
No her cúð-lícor
cuman on-gunnon
lind-hæbbende,
né geleáfnes-word
gúð-fremmendra
490 gearwe ne wisson,
maga ge-médu:
næfre ic máran ge-seah
eorla ofer eorþan
ðonne is eówer sum
secg on searwum;
nis þ seld guma
wæpnum ge-weorðad
næfre him his wlíte leóge,
æn-líc an-sýn.
500 Nú ic eówer sceal
frum-cyn witan,
ér ge fyr [heó]nan, [138b]
leás sceáweras,

479 Ic þæs. 480 ég-wearde.
488 næfne.

on land Den[a]
furþur feran.
Nú ge feor-búend,
mere-líðende,
míne ge-hýrað
án-fealdne ge-þoht;
510 ófost is sélest
tó ge-cýðanne
hwanan eówre cyme syndon.

IV.

Him se yldesta
and-swarode;
werodes wísa
word-hord on-leác;
We synt gum-cynnes
Geáta leóde,
and Hige-láces
520 heorð-geneátas:
wæs mín fæder
folcum ge-cýþed,
æþele ord-fruma
Ecg-þeów háten:
ge-bád wintra worn
ær he on weg hwurfe
gamol of geardum;
hine gearwe ge-mán
wítena wel-hwylc

508 mínne.

530 wíde geond eorþan.
We þurh holdne hige
hláford þínne,
sunu Healf-denes,
sécean cwomon,
leód ge-byrgean.
536 Wæs þú ús lárena gód;
habbaþ we tó þém mæran
micel ærende
Deniga freán:
540 ne sceal þær dýrne-sum
wesan þæs ic wéne:
þú wást gif hit is swá,
we sóþ-líce
secgan hyrdon, [136]
þ mid Scyldingum
scea[ðena]ic nát hwylc,
deogol dæd-hata,
deorcum nihtum
eáweð þurh egsan
550 un-cúðne níð,
hynðu and hrafyl.
Ic þæs Hróð-gár mæg.
þur[h] rúmne sefan
ræd ge-læran,
hú he fród [and] gód
feónd ofer-swýðeþ,
gyf him ed-wenda[n]

536 Wes.

æfre scolde;
bealuwa bisigu
560 bót eft cuman,
and þa cear-wylmas
cólran wurðaþ:
oððe á syþðan
earfoð-þrage,
þreá-nýd þólað,
þenden þær wunað
on heáh-stede
húsa sélest.
Weard maþelode,
570 ðær ón wicge sæt
om-beht un-forht;
Æg-hwæþres sceal
scearp scyld-wíga
ge-scád wítan,
worda and worca,
se þe wel þenceð.
Ic þ ge-hýre
þ þis is hold weorod
freán Scyldinga:
580 ge-wítað forð beran
wæpen and ge-wædu,
ic eów wísige:
swylce ic magu-þegnas
míne háte
wiðð feónda gehwone
flótan eówerne,
niw-tyrwydne

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nacan on sande,
árum healdan,
590 oþðæt eft byreð
ofer lagu-streá[mas]
leófne mannan [136b.]
wudu wunden-hals
[t]ó weder-mearce,
gód-fremmendra
swylcum gifebe bið
þ þone hilde-ræs
hál ge-díge ð.
Ge-witon him þá feran,
600 flóta [s]tille bád,
seómode on sole,
síd-fæþmed scip,
on ancre fæst:
eofor-líc sciónon
ofer-hleor beran;
ge-hroden golde
fáh and fýr-heard
ferh-wearde heóld:
gúð-mód grummon,
610 guman on-etton,
sigon æt-somne
oþ þ hý sæl-timbred,
geatolic and gold-fáh,
on-gyton mihton,
þ wæs fore-mærost

601 seómod. 609 gúð-móde.
614 on-gytan.

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fold-búendum,
receda under roderum,
on þǽm se ríca bád.
Lixte se leóma
ofer landa fela:
him þa hilde-deór
[h]of módigra
torht ge-tǽhte,
þǽt híe him tó mihton
gegnum gangan.
Gúð-beorna sum
wicg ge-wende,
word æfter cwǽð:
mǽl is me tó feran,
fǽder al-walda
mid ár-stafum
eówic ge-healde,
siða ge-sunde;
ic tó sǽ wille
wið [w]ráð-werod [137]
wearde healdan.

V.

Strǽt wǽs stán-fáh,
stíg wísode
gumum ǽt-gǽdere;
gúð-byrne scán,
heard hond-locen;
hring-iren scír
song in searwum

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Þá híe tó sele furðum,
in hyra grýre-geatwum,
gangan cwomon.
Setton sæ-méþe
síde scyldas,
rondas regn-hearde,
wiðþæs recedes weal.
Bugon þá tó bence,
byrnan hringdon,
gúð-searo gumena
gáras stódon
sæ-manna searo
samod æt-gædere,
æsc-holt ufan græg;
wæs se iren-þreát
wæpnum ge-wurþad.
Ðá ðær wlonc hæleð
oret-mecgas
æfter hæleþum frægn:
hwanon ferigeaðge
fætte scyldas,
græge syrcàn,
and grim-helmas,
here-sceafta heáp?
Ic eóm Hróð-gáres
ár and om-biht:
ne seah ic el-þeódige
þus manige men
módig-lícran:
wén ic þ ge for wlenco,

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674 nalles for wræc-síðum,
ac for hige-[þr]ymmum, [137b.]
Hróð-gár sóhton.
Him þa e[llen]-róf
and-swarode
wlanc Wedera leód, 15
680 word æfter spræc,
heard under helme;
we synt Hige-láces
beód-ge-neátas
Beówulf is mín nama;
wille ic á-secgan
sunu Healf-denes,
mærum þeódne,
mín ærende,
aldre þínum,
690 gif he us ge-unnan wile
þ we hine swá gódne
grétan móton.
Wulf-gár maþelode
þ wæs Wendla leód,
wæs his mód-sefa
manegum ge-cýðed,
wíg and wís-dóm:
ic þæs wine Deniga
freán Scildinga
700 frínan wille,
beága bryttan,

686 suna.

swá þú béna eart,
þeóden mærne
ymb þínne síð;
and þe þa and-sware
ædre ge-cýðan
ðe me se góda
á-gifan þenceð.
Hwearf þá hræd-líce
þær Hróð-gár sæt,
eald and un-hâr,
mid his eorla ge driht.
Eóde ellen-róf
þ he for eaxlum ge-stód
Deniga freán,
cúþe he dúguðe þeáw.
Wulf-gár maðelode
tó his wine-drihtne; [138]
her syndon ge[fere]de,
feorran cumene
ofer geofenes [be]-gang,
Geáta leóde:
þone yldestan
ore[t]-mecgas
Beó-wulf nemnað;
hý bénan synt
þ híe þeóden mín
wið þe móton
wordum wrixlan;
nó ðú him wearne. Ge-teóh
ðínra gegn-cwida

732 glædman, Hroð-gár :
hý on wig-getawum
wirðe þinceað :
eorla ge-æhtlan
huru se aldor deáh,
737 se þæm heaðo-rincum
hider wísade.

VI.

Hróð-gár maþelode,
740 helm Scyldinga ;
ic hine cúðe
cniht-wesende ;
wæs his eald-fæder
Ecg-þeó háten,
ðæm tó hám for-geaf
Hreþel Geáta
ángan dohtor :
is his eaforan nú
heard her cumen,
750 sóhte holdne wine.
Ðonne sægdon þ
2 sæ-líþende
3 þa ðe gif-sceattas
Geáta fyredon,
þyder tó þance,
þ he xxx[g]es [138b.]
manna mægen-cræft,

749 cniht-wesendne. 748 eafora.

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on his [mund]-grípe,
heaþo-rôf hæbbe.
Hine hálig God
for ár-stafum
ús on-sende,
tó West-Denū,
þæs ic wén hæbbe,
wiȝ Grendles grýre:
ic þǽm gódan sceal
for his mód-þræce
mádmas beódan.
Beó ȝú on ófeste,
hát ingán,
seón sibbe-ge-driht
samod æt-gædere:
ge-saga him eác wordum
þ híe sint wil-cuman
Deniga leódum.*
word inne á-beád;
eów hét secgan
síge-drihten mín,
aldor Ást-Dena,
þ he eówer æþelu can
and ge him syndon
ofer sǽ-wylmas,
heard-hicgende,
hider wil-cuman.

* Probably two lines have been omitted, of which the second may have been Wulfgár maþelode.

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Nú ge móton gangan
in eówrum gúð-geatawum,
under here-grimman
Hróðgar ge-seón.
Lætað hilde-bord
her on-bídan,
wudu wæl-sceaftas,
worda ge-þinges.
A'-rás þá se rica,
ymb hine rinc manig
þryð-líc þegna heáp;
sume þær bidon
heaðo-reáf heóldon,
swá him se [hea]rda be-beád. [139]
Snyredon æt-somne,
[þær] secg wísode
under Heorotes hróf,
hea[rd] under helme,
þ he on heóðe ge-stód.
Beó-wulf maðelode,
on him byrne scán,
sea[ro]-net seówed
smiþes or-þancum;
wæs þú Hró[ð]-gár hál!
Ic eóm Hige-láces
mæg and mago-ðegn:
hæbbe ic mærða fela
on-gunnen on geógoþe;

803 heorðe. T. 808 wes.

me wearð Grendles þing
on mínre éþel-tyrf
un-dyrne cúð:
secgað sæ-líðend
þ þæs sele stande,
reced sélesta,
rinca ge-hwylcum
820 ídel and un-nýt,
siððan æfen-leóht
under heofenes hádor
be-holen weorþeð:
þá me þ ge-lærdon
leóde míne,
þa sélestan,
snotere ceorlas,
þeóden Hróð-gár,
þ ic þe sóhte;
830 for þan híe mægenes creft
míne cúþon;
selfe ofer-sawon
ðá ic of searwum cwom,
fáh from feóndum,
þær ic fife ge-band,
ýðde eótena cyn,
and on ýðum slóg
niceras nihtes;
nearo-þearfe dreáh,
840 wræc [Wed]era níð, [139b.]

817 þes. 818 receda sélest.

wean áhsodon,
for-grand [grá]mum:
and nú wiðð Grendel sceal
wiðð þā ag-læcan,
ána ge-hegan
ðing wiðð þyrse.
[Ic] þe nú ðá
brego Beorht-Dena,
biddan wille,
850 [eó]dor Scyldinga,
ánre béne;
þ ðú me ne for-wyrne,
wígendra hleó,
freo-wine folca,
nú ic þus feorran com,
þ ic móte ána
mínra eorla gedryht,
and þes hearda heáp,
Heorot fælsian.
860 Hæbbe ic eác ge-áhsod
þ se æg-læca
for his won-hydum
wæpna ne recceð;
ic þ þonne for-hicge,
swa me Hige-lác sie
mín mon-drihten
módes blíðe,
þ ic sweord bere
oþðe sídne scyld,
870 geolo-rand tó gúðe;

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ac ic mid grápe sceal
fón wiđ feónde,
and ymb feorh sacan,
láđ wiđ láþum;
đær ge-lýfan sceal
dryhtnes dóme
se þe hine deáđ nimeđ.
Wén ic þ he wille,
gif he wealdan mót,
in þém gúđ-sele
Geótena leóde
etan un-forhte,
swa he oft dyde [140]
mægen Hređ-manna.
Ná [þú] mínne þearft
hafalan hydan;
ac he me habban wile
deóre fáhne:
gif mec deáđ nimeđ,
byređ blódig wæl,
byrgean þenceđ;
eteđ án-genga
un-murn-líce;
mearcađ fen-hópu;
nó đú ymb mínes ne þearft
líces feorme
leng sorgian.
On-send Hige-láce,

888 dreóre.

gif mec hild nime,
900 beadu-scrúda betst
þ míne breóst wereð,
hrægla sélest,
þ is Hrædlan láf,
4 Welandes ge-weorc:
gæ ða wyrd swá hió scel.

VII.

Hróð-gár maþelode,
helm Scyldinga;
fere fyhtum þú,
wine mín Beó-wulf,
910 and for ár-stafum
úsic sóhtest.
2 Ge-slóh þín fæder
fæhðe mæste:
wearð he Heaþo-láfe
tó hand-bonan
mid Wilfingū,
ðá hine gára cyn
8 for here-brógan 20
habban ne mihte:
920 þanon he ge-sóhte
Suð-dena folc
ofer ýða ge-wealc,
ár [Scil]dinga, [140b.]

903 gá.
908 Fore fylstum þú
feónd mín Beówulf.

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ðá ic furþum weóld
folce Deninga,
and on geógoðe heóld
gimme-ríce,
hord-burh hæleþa;
ðá wæs Here-gár deád,
930 myn yldra mæg
un-lífigende,
bearn Healf-denes,
se wæs betera ðon̄ ic:
siððan [þ]a fæhðe
feo þingode;
sende ic Wylfingū
ofer wæteres hrycg
ealde mádmas:
he me áþas swór.
940 Sorh is me tó secganne,
on sefan minum,
gumena ǽngum,
hwæt me Grendel hafað,
hynðo on Heorote,
5 mid his hete-þancum,
6 fær-níða ge-fremed:
7 is mín flet-werod,
wíg-heáp, ge-wanod;
híe wyrd for-sweóp
950 on Grendles grýre.
God eáþe mæg
2 þone dol-scaðan*

* In the MS. a later hand has written an *e* over the *ca*.

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dæda ge-twæfan.
Ful oft ge-beótedon
beóre druncne,
ofer ealo-wæge
oret-mecgas,
þ híe in beor-sele
bídan woldon
Grendles gúþe
mid gryrum ecga.
Ðoñ wæs þeós medo-heal
on morgen-tíd,
driht-sele dreór-fáh
þoñ dæg lixte;
eal benc-þelu [141]
blóde be-stýmed,
heall heor[o]-dreóre:
áhte ic holdra þý læs,
deorre dúguðe,
þe þá deáð for-nam.
Site nú t[ó] symle
and on sæl-meoto,
sige-hreð secgū
swá þín sefa hwette.
Ða wæs Geát-mæcgum
geador æt-somne
on beor-sele,
benc ge-rýmed;
þær swíð-ferhðe
sittan eódon,
þryðum dealle:

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983 þegn nýtte be-heóld
se þe on handa bær
hroden ealo-wǽge,
6 scencte scír-wered;
scóp hwílum sang
hádor on Heorote, 121
þær wæs hæleða dreám
990 dúguð un-lytel
Dena and Wedera.

VIII.

Hvnferð maþelode
Ecg-láfes bearn,
þe æt fótum sæt
freán Scyldinga;
on-band beado-rúne
wæs him Beó-wulfes síð,
8 módges mere-faran,
9 micel æf-þunca.
1000 for þon þe he ne úþe
þ ænig óðer man
æfre mǽrðe þon má [141b.]
middan-geardes,
ge-hedde under heofenum,
þon̄ he sylfa:
eart þú se Beó-wulf
se þe wið Brecan wunne
on sídne sǽ,

1002 ? þon *delendum*. T.

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ymb sund-flíte,
1010 ðær git for wlence
wada cunnedon,
and for dol-gilpe,
on deóp wæter
aldrū néþdon;
ne inc ænig mon,
ne leóf ne láð,
be-leán mihte
sorh-fullne síð:
þá git on sund reón.
1020 þær git eagor-stream
earmum þéhton,
mæton mere-stræta,
mundum brugdon,
glidon ofer gár-secg;
geofon-ýþū
weól wintrys wylm:
git on wæteres æht
seofon-niht swuncon;
he þe æt sunde ofer-flát,
1030 hæfde máre mægen:
þá hine on morgen-tíd
on Heaþo-ræmes
1039 holm up-æt-bær;
ðonon he ge-sóhte
swæsne ·ꝏ·*
leóf his leódum,

1026 wintres. * éðel.

land Brondinga,
freóðo-burh fægere,
þær he folc áhte
1040 burh and beágas.
Beót eal wiðþe [142]
sunu Bean-stánes
só[ðe] ge-læste.
Ðon wéne ic tó þe
wyrsan þingea,
ðeáh þú heaðo-ræsa
ge-hwǽr dóhte,
grimre gúðe,
gif þú Grendl[es] dearst,
1050 niht-longne fyrst,
neán bí[dan].
Beó-wulf maþelode
bearn Ecg-þeówes;
Hwæt þú worn fela
wine mín Hunfer[ð],
beóre druncen,
ymb Brecan spræce,
sægdest from his síðe;
sóð ic talige
1060 þ ic mere-strengo
máran áhte,
earfeþo on ýþum,
ðonne ænig óþer man.
Wit þ ge-cwædon
cniht-wesende
and ge-beótedon,

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[wǽron begen þá git
on geógoð-feore]
þ wit, on gâr-secg út
1070 aldrum néðdon, ventail
and þ ge-æfndon swá.
Hæfdon swurd nacod,
3 þá wit on sund reón,
heard on handa;
wit unc wiðð hron-fixas
wérian þóhton.
Ne he wiht fram me
8 flód-ýþū feor
fleótan meahte,
1080 hraþor on holme,
no ic fram him wolde;
ðá wit æt-[s]omne [142b.]
on sǽ wǽron
síf nihta fyrst,
oþ þ unc flód tó-dráf,
wado weallende,
wédera cealdost,
8 nipende niht;
and norþan [w]ind
1090 heaþo-grim and-hwearf:
hreo wǽron [ý]þa.
Wæs mere-fixa
mód on-hréred:
þær me wiðð láðum
5 líc-syrce mín,
6 heard hond-locen,

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helpe ge-fremede;
beado-hrægl broden
on breóstum læg,
1100 golde ge-gyrwed.
Me tó grunde teáh
fáh feónd-scaðа;
fæste hæfde
grim on grápe:
hwæþre me gyfeþe wearð,
þ ic ag-lǽcan
orde ge-ræhte,
hilde-bille;
heaþo-ræs for-nam
1110 mihtig mere-deór
þurh míne hand.

VIIII.

Swá mec ge-lóme
3 láð-ge-teónan
þreatedon þearle;
ic him þénode
deóran sweorde,
swá hit ge-défe wæs:
nǽs híe ðǽre fylle
ge-feán hæfdon,
1120 mán-for-dǽdlan, h 24
þ híe me þegon,
2 symbel ymb-sǽton
sǽ-grunde neáh.
Ac on mergenne

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mecū wunde, [143]
be ýð-láfe
uppe lægon,
swe[ordū] á-swefede;
þ syðþan ná
ymb bront[ne] ford,
brim-líðende
láde ne letton.
[Leóht] eástan com,
beorht beácen Godes,
brimu swaþredon,
þ ic sæ-næssas
ge-seón mihte,
windige weallas.
Wyrd oft nereð
un-fægne eorl
þonne his ellen deáh.
Hwæþere me ge-sælde
þ ic mid sweorde of-slóh
niceras nigene:
nó ic on niht ge-frægn
under heófones hwealf
heardran feohtan,
ne on ég-streámum
earmran mannon:
hwaþere ic fara feng,
feore ge dígde
síþes wérig,
þá mec sǽ oþ-bær,
flód æfter faroðe,

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on Finna land,
wudu weallendu.
No ic wiht frā þe
swylcra searo-níðа
secgan hyrde,
1160 billa brógan :
Breca næfre git
æt heaðo-láce,
ȝ ne ge-hwæþer incer, ⸗ 25
swa deór-líce
dǽd ge-fremede,
† fágum sweordum
No ic þæs gylpe
þeáh ðú þínum broðrum
tó banan wurde,
heáfod-mægum,
1170 þæs þú in [helle] scealt [143b.]
werhðo dreógan,
þeáh þín [wit] dúge.
Secge ic þe tó sóðe,
sunu Ecg-[laf]es,
þ næfre Gredel swá fela
grýra ge-fremede,
átol æg-láca
ealdre þínum,
hynðo on Heorote,
1180 gif þín hige wǽre,
sefa swá searo-grim

1175 Grendel.

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swá þú self talast.
Ac he hafaȝ on-funden
þ he þa fæhȝe ne þearf
átole ecg-þræce
eówer leóde
swíȝe on-sittan,
síge-Scyldinga;
nymeȝ nýd-bade,
nænegu áraȝ
leóde Deninga,
ac he lust-wígeȝ
swefeȝ ond sendeþ;
secce ne wéneþ
tó Gár-Denum:
ac ic him Geáta sceal
eafoȝ and ellen,
ungeare nú
gúþe ge-beódan.
Gæþ eft se þe môt.
to medo módig,
siþþan morgen-leóht
ofer ylda-bearn,
óþres dógores
sunne swegl-wered
súþan scíneȝ.
Ðá wæs on sálum
sinces brytta,
gamol-feax and gúȝ-róf

1193 on-sendeȝ.

1210 geóce ge-lýfde,
[b]rego Beorht-Dena; [144]
ge-hyrde on [Beó]-wulfe
folces hyrde
fæst-rædne ge-þóht.
Dær wæs hæleþa hleahtor.
6hlyn swynsode,
word wæron wynsume;
eóde Wealh-þeów forð
cwen Hróð-gáres;
1220 cynna ge-myndig
grétte gold-hroden
guman on healle;
and þa freó-líc wíf
ful ge-sealde
ærest East-Dena
6 éþel-wearde;
bæd hine blíðne
8æt þær[e] beór-þege
leódum leófne.
1230 He on lust[e] ge-þeáh
symbel and sele-ful,
síge-róf Kyning.
Ymb-eóde þá
ides Helminga
dúguþe and geógoþe,
dæl æg-hwylcne;
sinc-fato sealde,
8 oþ þ sél á-lamp
þ hió Beó-wulfe,

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1240 beág-hroden cwen,
móde ge-þungen,
medo-ful æt-bær.
Grétte Geáta leód
Gode þancode
wís-fæst wordum,
þæs ðe hire se willa ge-lamp,
þ heó on ánigne
eorl ge-lýfde,
fyrena frófre.
1250 He þ ful ge-þeáh
wæl-reow wíga
[æt W]ealh-þeón, [144b.]
and þá gyddode
gúþe ge-fýsed;
Beó-wulf maþelode,
bearn Ecg-þeówes;
Ic þæt hogode
þá ic on holm ge-stáh,
sæ-bát ge-sæt
1260 mid mínra secga ge-driht,
þ ic ánunga
eówra leóda
willan ge-worhte,
oþðe on wæl crunge,
feónd-grápum fæst:
ic ge-fremman sceal
eorlíc ellen,
oþðe ende-dæg
on þisse meodu-healle

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1270 mínne ge-bídan.
Ðam wífe þa word
wel lícodon,
gilp-cwide Geátes; p 27
eóde gold-hroden,
freó-lícu folc-cwen,
tó hire freán sittan.
Ðá wæs eft swá ǽr
inne on healle
þryð-word sprecen,
1280 ðeód on sǽlum,
síge-folca swég,
oþ þ semninga
sunu Healf-denes
sécean wolde
æfen-ræste:
wiste þǽm ah-lǽcan
7 tó þǽm heáh-sele
hilde ge-þinged,
siððan híe sunnan leóht
1290 ge-seón meahton,
oþðe nipende
niht ofer ealle,
3 scadu-helma ge-sceapu p 27 Eng p p 27 line
6 scríðan cwoman, 1293
wan under wolcnū.
Werod eall á-rás.
grétte þá

1294 cwomon.

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guma óþerne,
Hróð-gár Beó-wulf,
1300 and him hæl á-beád,
wín-ærnes ge-weald, [145]
and þ word á-cwæð;
Næfre ic ænegū men
ær á-lyfde,
siþðan ic hond and rond
hebban mihte,
ðryþ-ærn Dena, þ 28
buton þe nú ðá.
Hafa nú and ge-heald
1310 húsa sélest;
ge-myne mærþo,
mægen-ellen cýð,
waca wið wráþum;
ne bið þe wilna gâd
gif þú þ ellen-weorc
aldre ge-dígest.

X.

Ðá him Hróþ-gár ge-wát
mid his hæleþa ge-dryht,
eódur Scydinga
1320 út of healle;
wolde wíg-fruma
Wealh-þeó sécan,
1323 cwen tó ge-beddan: þ 28

1300 hælo. 1319 Scyldinga.

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1324 hæfde Kyning wuldor
Grendle tó-geanes,
swa guman ge-frungon,
sele-weard á-seted :
sundor-nýtte be-heóld
ymb aldor Dena
1330 eoton-weard á-beád :
huru Geáta leód
georne trúwode
módgan mægnes,
metodes hyldo,
ðá he hī of-dyde
ísern-byrnan,
helm of hafelan,
sealde his hyrsted sweord,
írena cyst,
1340 ombiht-þegne,
and ge-healdan hét
hilde-geátwe :
ge-spræc þá se góda
gylp-worda sum,
Beó-wulf Geáta, [145b.]
ær he on bed stíge.
Nó ic me an here-wæsmun
hnágran talige
gúþ-ge-weorca,
1350 þonne Grendel hine,
for þan ic hine sweorde

1347 here-wæstmum.

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swebban nelle,
aldre be-neótan,
þeáh ic eal mæge.
Nát he þára góda
þ he me on-gean sleá,
rand ge-heáwe,
þeáh ðe he róf síe
níþ-ge-weorca,
ac wit on niht sculon,
secge ofer-sittan,
gif het ge-sécean dear
wíg ofer wæpen;
and siþðan wítig God,
on swá hwæþere hond.
hálig dryhten
mærðo déme,
swá him ge-met þince.
Hylde hine þa heaþo-deór
hleor bolster on-feng,
eorles and-wlítan;
and hine ymb monig
snellic sæ-rinc
sele-reste ge-beáh.
Nænig heora þóhte
þ he þanon scolde
eft eard-lufan
æfre ge-sécean,
folc oþðe freó-burh

1362 he.

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1380 þær he á-féded wæs :
ac híe hæfdon ge-frunen þ híe
ær tó fela micles,
in þæm wín-sele
wæl-deáð for-nam,
Denigea leóde :
ac him dryhten for-geaf
wíg-spéda ge-wiófu,
Wedera leódum [146]
frófor and ful[tum],
1390 [þ híe] feónd heora
ðurh ánes cræft
ealle ofer-comon,
selfes mihtum :
sóð is ge-cýþed
þ mihtig God
manna cynnes weóld.
[. . . .]ferhð com
on wanre niht,
scriðan s[ca]du-genga ;
1400 sceótend swæfon
þa þ horn-reced
healdan scoldon,
ealle buton án[um] ;
þ wæs yldum cúþ,
þ híe ne moste
[þá met[od] nolde]
se syn-scaþa

1397 [wíde]f. T.

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under sceadu bregdan ;
ac he wæccende
1410 wráþum on andan,
bád bolgen-mód
beadwa ge-þinges.

XI.

Ðá com of móre
under mist-hleóþm,
Grendel gongan ;
gódes yrre bær,
mynte se mán-scaða
manna cynnes
sumne b[e]-syrwan
1420 in sele þám heán.
Wód under [wolc]num
tó þæs þe he wín-reced,
gold-sele gum[e]na,
gearwost wisse,
fættum fáhne :
ne wæs þæt forma síð
þ he Hróþ-gáres
hā ge-sóhte.
Næfre he on aldor-dagum
1430 ær [ne] siþðan [146b.]
heardran hæle
heal-ðegnas fand.
Com þá to recede
rinc siðian
dreámum be-dæled,

duru sóna on-arn,
fýr-[ben]dum fæst,
syþðan he hire folmum
On-bræd þa bealo-hydig,
1440 ðá [he] abolgen wæs,
recedes múþan;
raþe æfter þon
on fágne flór
feónd treddode.
Eóde yrre-mód,
him of eágum stód,
ligge ge-licost,
leóht un-fæger.
Ge-seah he in recede
1450 rinca manige
swefan sibbe-ge-driht
samod æt-gædere,
mago-rinca heáp:
þá his mód á-hlóg:
mynte þæt he ge-dælde
ær þon dæg cwome,
átol ag-læca,
ánra ge-hwylces
líf wiðð líce,
1460 þá him á-lumpen wæs
wist-fylle wén;
ne wæs [w]yrd þá gen,
þ he má móste

1438 [æt-hrán] R.

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manna cynnes
ðicgean ofer þa niht.
Ðryð-swyð be-heóld
mæg Hige-láces,
hú se mán-scaða
under fér-grípum,
1470 ge-faran wolde.
Ne þ se ag-læca
yldan þóhte,
ac he ge-feng hraðe [131]
forman síðe
slæpendne rinc;
slát un-wearnum,
bât bán-locan,
bl[ód] edrum dranc,
syn-snædum swealh;
1480 sóna hæfde
un-lyfigendes,
eal ge-feormod,
fét and folma:
fórð neár æt-stóp,
nam þá mid h[an]da
hige-þihtigne
rinc on ræste.
[Hand] ræhte on-gean,
feónd mid folme
1490 he ón-feng hraðe,
in-wít-þancū,
and wið earm ge-sæt:
sóna þ on-funde

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fyrena hyrde
þ he ne métte
middan-geardes,
eorðan sceatta,
on elran men
mund-gripe máran:
he od móde wearð
forht on ferhðe;
no þý ær from meahte;
hyge wæs him hin-fús,
wolde on heolster fleón,
sécan deófla ge-dræg;
ne wæs his drohtoð þær
swylce he on ealder-dagum
ær ge-métte.
Ge-munde þá se góda
mæg Hige-láces
æfen-spræce,
úp-lang á-stód
and him fæste wiðfeng;
fingras burston,
eóten wæs út-weard;
eorl furþur stóp;
mynte se mæra,
[hwæ]r he meahte swá, [131b.]
wídre ge-windan
and [o]n-weg þanon
fleón on fen-hópu;
wiste [h]is fingra ge-weald
on grámes grápum

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þæt he wæs geócor :
1521 síð þ se hearm-sca[þ]a
tó Heorute á-teáh,
dryht-sele dynede,
Denu eallum wearð
ceaster-búendum,
1530 cénra ge-hwylcum,
eorlum ealu scerwen :
yrre wæron begen,
reþe rén-weardas ;
reced hlynsode ;
þá wæs wundor micel
þ se wín-sele
wið-hæfde heaþo-deórum,
þ he on hrúsan ne feól,
fæger fold-bold ;
1540 ac he þæs fæste wæs,
innan and útan,
íren-bendum,
searo-þoncum be-smiþod :
þær fram sylle á-beág
medu-benc monig,
míne ge-frége,
golde ge-regnad,
þær þa gráman wunnon ;
þæs ne wéndon ér
1550 wítan Scyldinga,
þ hit á mid ge-méte
manna ænig,
1553 het-líc and bân-fág,

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tó-brecan meahte,
listum tó-lúcan,
nymþe liges fæþm
swulge on swaþule.
Swég úp á-stág, [147]
niwe ge-neáhhe;
Norð-Denũ st[ód]
áte-lic egesa,
ánra ge-hwylcum
þára [þe] of wealle
wóp ge-hyrdon,
grýre-leóð [ga]lan
gódes and-sacan,
síge-leásne sang,
[sár] wanigean;
helle-hæft on-heóld
hine [tó] fæste,
se þe manna wæs
mægene strengest
on þám dæge
þysses lífes.

XII.

Nolde eorla hleó.
ánige þinga,
þone cwealm-cuman
cwícne for-lætan:
ne his líf-dagas

1565 grýre-leóð.

1580 leóda ænigum
nytte tealde.
Dær ge-nehost brægd
eorl Beó-wulfes
ealde-láfe,
wolde freáh-drihtnes
feorh ealgian,
mæres þeódnes,
þær híe meahton swá.
Híe þ ne wiston
1590 þá híe ge-win drugon,
heard-hicgende
hilde-mecgas,
and on healfa ge-hwone
heáwan þóhton,
sáwle sécan,
þone syn-scaðan,
ænig ofer eorþan,
írenna cyst,
gúð-billa nán,
1600 grétan nolde.
Ac he síge-wæpnū
for-sworen hæfde, [147b.]
ecga ge-hwylcre;
scolde [h]is aldor-ge-dál
on ðæm dæge
þysses [líf]es
earm-líc wurðan,
and se ellor-gast
[on] feónda ge-weald

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1610 feor síðian.
Ðá þæt [o]nfunde,
[se þe fela æror,
3 módes myrðe,
manna cynne
fyrene ge-fremede,
6 he [wæs f]ág wið gód]
þ him se líc-homa
læstan [n]olde;
ac hine se módega
1620 mæg Hyge-láces
hæfde be honda;
wæs ge-hwæþer óðrum
lifigende làð,
líc-sár ge-bád
átol æg-læca:
hím on eaxle wearð
7 syn-dolh sweótol,
8 seonowe on-sprungon,
burston bán-locan;
1630 Beó-wulfe wearð
gúð-hreð gyfeþe.
Scolde Grendel þonan
3 feorh-seóc fleón
4 under fen-hleóðu,
sécean wyn-leás wíc.
Wiste þe geornor
þ his aldres wæs
ende ge-gongen,
9 dógera dæg-rim:

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1640 Denum eallum wearð,
æfter þam wæl-ræse,
willa ge-lumpen.
Hæfde þá ge-fælsod
se þe ær feorran com,
snotor and swýð-ferhð,
sele Hróð-gáres,
ge-nered wið níðe. [148]
Niht-weorce ge-féh,
ellen-mær[þum];
1650 hæfde Eást-denum
Geat-mecga leód
gilp ge-læsted;
swylce on cýþðe
ealle ge[béted]
ín-wíd-sorge
þe híe ær drugon,
and for [þreá]-nýdum
þolian scoldon,
torn un-lyt[el]:
1660 Þ wæs tácen sweótol,
syþðan hilde-deór
hond á-legde,
earm and eaxle;
þær wæs eal geador
Grendles grápe,
under geapne h[róf].

XIII.

Ðá wæs on morgen,

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míne ge-fræge,
ymb þa gif-healle
1670 gúð-rinc monig;
ferdon folc-togan
feorran and neán
geond wíd-wegas,
wundor sceawian,
láþes lastas.
No his líf-ge-dál
sárlíc þúhte
secga ænegum,
þára þe tir-leáses
1680 tróde sceawode,
hú he, wérig-mód,
on-weg þanon,
níða ofer-cumen,
on nicera mere
fæge and ge-flýmed
feorh-lastas bær.
Dær wæs on blóde
brim-weallende
átol ýða ge-spring,
1690 eal ge-menged,
hát on heolfre;
[heo]ro-dreóre weól [148b.]
deáð-fæge deog,
siððan dreáma-leás
in fen-freóðo

1693 deág.

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feorh á-legde,
[hæþ]ene sáwle,
þær him hel on-feng.
Ðanon [eft] ge-witon
1700 eald-ge-síðas,
swylce geóng [ma]nig
2 of gomen-waðe,*
fram mere módge
4 [m]earum rídan,
beornas on blancum.
Ðær wæs Beó-wulfes
7 mærðo mæned;
monig oft ge-cwæð
þætte, súð ne norð,
1710 be sæm tweonum
ofer eormen-grund,
óþer nænig
under swegles be-gong
sélra nære,
rond-hæbbendra,
ríces wyrðra.
Ne híe huru wine-drihten
wiht ne logon
glædne Hróð-gár,
1720 ac þ wæs gód cyning.
Hwílum heaþo-rófe
hleápan leton 36

* Dr. Grimm proposes to read gomen-pað *via gaudii*, but the change is unnecessary.

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on ge-flít faran
fealwe mearas,
ðær him fold-wegas
fægere þúhton,
cystum cúðe:
hwílum cyninges þegn,
guma gilp-hlæden,
1730 gidda ge-myndig,
[se þe eal-fela
eald-ge-segena
worn ge-munde,
word óþer fand
sóðe ge-bunden,]
secg eft on-gan
síð Beó-wulfes
snyttrum styrian, [149]
and on spéd wrecan
1740 spel ge-ráde.
wordum wrixlan
wel hwylc ge-cwæð
þ he fram Síge-munde
secgan hyrde,
ellen-[dæ]dum,
un-cúþes fela,
Wælsinges ge-win,
wí[de] síðas
þæra þe gumena bearn
1750 gearwe ne wiston;

1745 ellen-[dæ]da. T.

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1751 fæhde and fyrena
buton Fitela m[id]. Hine
þonne he swulces hwæt
secgan wol[de]
eám his nefan
swá híe á wæron
æt níða ge-hwám
8 nýd-ge-steallan.
Hæfdon eal-fela
1760 eótena cynnes
1 sweordum ge-sæged.
Síge-munde ge-sprong
æfter deáð-dæge
dóm un-lytel;
syþðan wíges heard
wyrm á-cwealde,
hordes hyrde;
he under hárne stán
æþelinges bearn
1770 ána ge-néþde
frecne dæda,
ne wæs him Fitela mid.
3 Hwæþre him ge-sælde
ðæt þ swurd þurh-wōd
wræt-lícne wyrm,
6 þ hit on wealle æt-stód,
dryht-líc íren;
draca morðre swealt.

1752 him.

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Hæfde ag-læca
1780 elne ge-gongen,
þ he beáh-hordes
brúcan móste
selfes dóme :
sæ-bát ge-hleód, [149b.]
bær on bear scipes
beorhte frætwa
Wælses eafera,
wyrm hât [ge]-mealt.
Se wæs wreccena
1790 wíde mærost
ofer wer-þeóde,
wígendra hleó
ellen-dædū ;
he þæs ær on-ðáh.
Siððan here-módes
hild [s]weðrode,
earfoð and ellen ;
he mid eótenum [w]earð
on feónda ge-weald
1800 forð for-lácen,
snúde for-sended.
hine sorh-wylmas
lemede tó lange ;
he his leódum wearð
eallū æþellingum,
to aldor-ceare.

1803 lemedon.

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Swylce oft be-mearn
ærran mælum
swíð-ferhðes síð
snotor ceorl monig,
se þe him bealwa
tó bóte ge-lýfde,
þ þ ðeódnes bearn
ge-þeón scolde,
fæder-æþelum on-fôn,
folc ge-healdan
hord and hleó-burh,
hæleþa ríce,
·Ꝑ· Scyldinga.*
He þær eallum wearð
mæg Hige-láces
manna cynne,
freóndum ge-fægra;
hine fyren on-wod.
Hwílum flítende
fealwe stræte
mearum mæton,
ðá wæs morgen-leóht
scofen and scynded;
eóde scealc monig [150]
swíð-hicgende,
tó sele þám heán,
searo-wundor séon.
Swylce self-cyning

* éðel Scyldinga.

of brýd-búre,
beáh-horda wea[rd]
trýddode tir-fæst,
ge-trume micle,
cystum ge-cýþed:
1840 and his cwen mid him
med[u]-stig ge-mæt
mægþa hose.

XIIII.

Hróð-gár maþelode;
[he tó healle geóng,
stód on stapole,
ge-seáh steápne hróf
1847 golde fáhne,
and Grendles hond];
Ðisse an-sýne,
1850 al-wealdan þanc
lungre ge-limpe.
Fela ic láþes ge-bád
grynna æt Grendle;
[á mæg God wyrcan
wunder æfter wundre,
wuldres hyrde,]
ðæt wæs un-geara
þæt ic ænigra me
weána ne wénde,
1860 tó wídan feore,
bóte ge-bídan;
þonne blóde fáh

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húsa selest
heoro-dreórig stód,
weá wíd-scofen
witena ge-hwylcne,
ðára þe ne wéndon
þ híe wíde ferhð,
leóda land-ge-weorc
1870 láþum be-weredon,
scuccum and scinnum. [150b.]
Nú scealc hafað,
þurh drihtnes miht,
dæd ge-fremede,
ðe we ealle
[ær] ne meahton
snyttrum be-syrwan.
Hwæt .. secgan mæg,
efne swá hwylc mægþa
1880 swá ðone magan cende
æfter gum-cynnū,
gyf heó gyt lyfað,
þ hyre eald-metod
éste wære
bearn-ge-byrdo.
Nú ic Beó-wulf
þec secg betsta
me for sunu wylle
freógan on ferhþe:
1890 heald forð tela

1878 ? [Ic].

niwe sibbe,
né biď þe ænigre gád
worolde wilna
þe ic ge-weald hæbbe:
ful oft ic for læssan
leán teóhhode,
hord-weorþunge,
hnáhran rince,
sæmran æt sæcce.
Ðú þe self hafast
dædum ge-fremed
þ þín lyfaď
áwa tó aldre:
al-walda þec
góde for-gylde,
swá he nú gyt dyde.
Beó-wulf maþelode
bearn Ec-þeówes;
we þ ellen-weorc
éstum miclum
feohtan fremedon,
frecne ge-néďdon,
eafoď un-cúþes:
úþe ic swiþor
þ ďú hine selfne
ge-seón móste,
feónd on frætewum,
fyl-wérigne:

1902 dom.

ic him hrædlíce
1920 heardan clammū [151]
on wæl-bedde
wríþan þóhte,
þ he for hand-grípe
minum scolde
1925 licgean lif-bysig, h 40
butan his líc swíce;
ic hine ne mihte,
[þá metod nolde]
gange[s] ge-twǽman;
nó ic him þæs georne
1930 æt ... fealh h 40
feorh-ge-niðlan,
wæs tó fore-mihtig
feónd on feþe,
hwæþere he his folme [for]-let
tó líf-wraþe
last weardian,
earm and eaxle;
nó þær ǽnige swá þeáh
feá-sceaft ... ma
1940 frófre ge-bóhte:
nó þý leng leof[að]
láð ge-teóna,
synnum ge-swenced,
ac hyne sâr hafað
in mid-gripe
nearwe be-fongen,

1922 mund-grípe. 1939 [gu]ma. T.

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balw on bendum :
ðær á-bidan sceal
maga máne fáh
1950 miclan dómes,
hú him scír-metod
scrífan wille.
Ðá wæs swigra secg
sunu Ec-láfes
on gylp-spræce,
gúð-ge-weorca,
siþðan æþelingas
eorles cræfte,
ofer heánne hróf
1960 hand sceáwedon,
feóndes fingras ;
foran æg-hwylc wæs
steda nægla ge-hwylc
style ge-lícost,
hæþenes hond-sw
* hilde-rinces [151b.]
egl un-heoru :
æg-hwylc ge-cwæð,
þ him heardra nán
1970 hrínan wolde
íren ær-gód,
þ ðæs áh-lǽcan
blódge beadu-folme
on-beran wolde.

* In the MS. "hilde" is faultily repeated.

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XV.

Đá wæs háten hreþe,
Heort innan-weard
folmum ge-frætwod;
fela þæra wæs
wera and wífa
1980 þe þ wín-reced
gest-sele gyredon;
gold-fág scínon
web æfter wagum,
wundor-sióna fela
secga ge-hwylcum
þára þe on swylc stára ð.
wæs þ beorhte bold
tó-brocen swíðe
eal inne-weard
1990 íren-bendū fæst,
heorras tó-hlidene,
hróf ána ge-næs
ealles an-sund,
þe se æg-láca,
fyren-dædum fág,
on fleám ge-wand,
aldres or-wéna;
nó þ ýðe byð
tó be-fleónne
2000 fremme se þe wille,
ac ge-sacan sceal
sáwl-berendra

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nýde ge-nydde,
niþða bearna,
grund-búendra,
gearwe stówe
þær his líc-homa
leger-bedde fæst
swefeð æfter symle.
Þá wæs sǽl and mǽl
þ tó healle gang [152]
Healf-denes sunu,
wolde self cyning
symbel þicgan.
Ne ge-frægn ic þá mægþ[a]
máran weorode
ymb hyra sinc-gyfan
s[ele] ge-bæran.
Bugon þá tó bence
blǽd-[ágen]de,
fylle ge-fǽgon,
fǽgere ge-þǽgon
m[eo]do-ful manig,
magas þára
swíð-hicgende
on sele þam heán,
Hróð-gar and Hróþ-ulf.
[Heo]rot innan wæs
freóndū á-fylled
nalles f[ácen]-stafas
Þeód-Scyldingas
þenden fremed[on]:

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for-geaf þá Beó-wulfe
brand Healf-denes
segen gyldenne
sígores tó leáne,
hr[oden]-hilte cumbor,
helm and byrnan
mære má[þ]þū-sweord
manige ge-sawon
be-foran be[orn] beran.
Beó-wulf ge-þáh
ful on flette;
nó [he] þære feoh-gyfte
for scótenum
scami[gan] ðorfte,
ne ge-frægn ic freónd-lícor
feów[er] mádmas
golde ge-gyrede
gum-manna fela,
in ealo-bence,
óðrum ge-sellan.
Ym[b] þæs helmes hróf
heáfod-beorge
wirum be-wunden
walan útan heold,
þæt him fela ..... af [15e^b.]
frecne ne meahton
scúr-beard sceþ[þ]an,
þoñ scyld-freca
on-gean grámum

2057 fela-láf

[g]angan scolde.
Héht ðá eorla hleó
eah[ta] mearas,
fæted hleore,
on flet teón,
[i]n under eoderas,
þára ánum stód
sadol searwum fâh,
2070 since ge-wurþad;
þæt wæs hilde setl
heáh-cyninges
ðoñ sweorda ge-lác
sunu Healf-denes
efnan wolde;
[næfre on ore læg
wíd-cúþes wíg
ðonne walu feollon;]
and ðá Beó-wulfe
2080 béga ge-hwæþres
eodor Ing-wina
on-weald ge-teáh,
wicga and wæpna;
hét hine wel brúcan.
Swa man-líce
mære þeóden,
hord-weard hæleþa,
heaþo-ræsas geald
mearum and mádmum.
2090 Swá hý næfre man lyhð
se þe secgan wile
sóð æfter rihte.

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XVI.

2093 Ða gyt æg-hwylcum,
eorla drihten,
þára þe mid Beo-wulfe
6 brim-leáde teáh,
on þáre medu-bence
máþðum ge-sealde,
yrfe-láfe, [153]
2100 and þone ænne héht
golde for-gy[l]dan
þone ðe Grendel ær
máne á-cwealde,
swá he hyra má wolde
6 nefne him witi[g] gód,
wyrd for-stóde,
and ðæs mannes mód:
[me]tod eallum weold
gumena cynnes
2110 swá he nú gyt déð,
forþan bið and-git
æg-hwær sélest,
3 ferhðes fore-þanc;
fela sceal g[e]-bídan
leófes and láþes
se þe longe her
on ðyssu win-dagum
worolde brúceð.
Ðær wæs sang and swég

2096 brim-láde.

2120 samod æt-gædere,
fore Healf-denes
hilde-wísan,
gomen-wudu gréted,
gid oft wrecen:
ðoñ heal-gamen
Hróþ-gáres scóp
æfter medo-bence
mǽnan scolde,
Finnes eaferum
2130 ðá híe se ſǽr be-geat,
hæleð Healf-dena
Hnæf Scyldinga
in Fres-wæle
feallan scolde.
Ne huru Hilde-burh
herian þorfte
Eótena treówe:
un-synnum wearð
be loren leofū
2140 æt þā hild-plegan,
bearnum and bróðrum;
híe on ge-byrd hruron
gáre [w]unde; [153b.]
þ wæs geomuru ides.
Nalles hólinga
[H]oces dohtor

2129 [Be] Finnes. T. 2131 Healfdenes.
2140 lind-plegan.

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meotod-sceaft be-mearn,
[si]þðan morgen com,
ðá heo under swegle
2150 [ge]-seón meahte
morþor-bealo maga,
[þ]ær he ær mæste heold
worolde wynne:
wíg ealle for-nam
Finnes þegnas
nemne feáu ánum,
þæt hie ne mehte
on þæm méðel-stede,
wíg Hengeste
2160 wiht ge-feohtan,
né þa weá-láfe
wíge for-þringan
þeódnes ðegne;
ac hig him ge-þingo budon,
þ hie him oðer flet
eal ge-rýmdon,
healle and heáh-setl,
þ híe healfre ge-weald
wiðð Eótena bearn
2170 ágan móston,
and æt feoh-gyftū
Folc-waldan sunu,
dogra ge-hwylce,
Dene weorþode,

2159 wiþ.

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Hengestes heáp,
hringū wénede
efne swá swíðe
sinc-ge-streónum
fættan goldes,
2180 swá he Fresena cyn
on beor-sele
byldan wolde.
Ðá híe ge-trúwedon
on twa healfa
fæste frioðu-wære,
Fin Hengeste,
elne un-flitme,
áðū be-nemde [154]
þ he þa weá-láfe
2190 weotena dóme
árum heolde,
þ ðær ænig mon
wordū né worcum
wære né bræce,
né þurh in-wit-searo
æfre ge-mænden,
ðeáh híe hira beág-gyfan
banan folgedon
ðeóden-leáse,
2200 þá him swá ge-þearfod wæs:
gyf þonne Frysna hwylc
frecnen spræce

2176 þenede. T.

ðæs morþor-hetes
myndgiend wære,
þonne hit sweordes ecg
syððan scolde.
Áð wæs ge-æfned,
and icge gold
á-hæfen of horde
here-Scyldinga:
betst beado-rinca
wæs on bæl gearu;
æt þæm áde wæs
éþ-ge-sýne
swát-fáh syrce,
swýn eal-gylden,
eofer íren-heard;
æþeling manig
wundum á-wyrded,
sume on wæle crungon.
Hét ðá Hilde-burh
æt Hnæfes áde
hire selfre sunu
sweoloðe be-fæstan,
bân-fatu bærnan,
and on bæl dôn,
earme on eaxle;
ides gnornode,
geomrode giddum,
gúð-rinc á-stáh,
wand [tó] wolcnum [154b.]
wæl-fyra mæst,

hlynode for hláwe,
hafelan multon,
ben-geato burston
ðonne blôd æt-spranc,
láð-bíte líces - -
lig ealle for-swealg,
gæsta gifrost,
þára ðe þær gúð for-nam :
béga folces wæs
hira blæd scacen.

XVII.

Ge-witon him ða wígend
wíca neósian,
freóndū be-feallen,
Frys-land ge-seón,
hámas and heá-burh ;
Hengest ðá gyt
wæl-fágne winter
wunode mid Finne,
un-hlitme,
eard ge-munde,
þeáh þe he meahte
on mere drífan
hringed-stefnan,
holm storme weol
won wiðð winde,
winter ýþe be-leàc

2251 elne.

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ís-ge-binde,
2260 oþ ðæt óþer com
gear in geardas;
swá nú gyt déð,
þa ðe syngales
séle be-witiað,
wuldor-torhtan weder.
Ðá wæs winter scacen,
fæger foldan bearm,
fundode wrecca
gist of geardum;
2270 he tó gyrn-wræce
swíðor þóhte [155]
þoñ tó sǽ-láde,
gif he torn-[ge]mót
burh-teón mihte,
þ he Eóten[a] bearn
inne ge-munde.
Swá he ne fo[r]-wyrnde
worold-rǽdenne
þonne him Hun-láfing,
2280 hilde-leóman,
billa séle[st],
on bearm dyde;
þæs wǽron mid Eótenum
ecge cúðe;
swylce ferhð-frecan
Fin eft be-geat,
sweord-bealo sliðen,
æt [his] selfes hâm,

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siþðan grimne grípe
2290 Gúð-láf and Os-láf,
æfter sæ-síðe,
sorge mǽndon;
æt-witon weána dǽl;
ne meahte wǽfre-mód
fór-habban in hrepre;
ðá wæs heal hroden
feónda feorum,
swilce Fin slægen
cyning-orþre,
2300 and seo cwen numen
sceótend Scyldinga
tó scypon feredon,
eal in-ge-stealdd
eorð-cyninges,
swylce híe æt Finnes-hám
findan meahton,
sigla searo-gimma;
híe on sǽ-láde
driht-líce wíf
2310 tó Denum feredon,
læddon tó leódum. [155b.]
Leóð wæs á-sungen
gleó-mannes gyd,
gamen eft á-stáh,
beorhtode benc-swég,
byrelas sealdon

2302 scypum. T.

wîn of [w]under-fatum:
þá cwom Wealh-þeó forð
gán under gyldnum beáge.
2320 þær þa gódan
twegen sæton
2 suhter-ge-fæde[r]an; 4 48
þá gyt wæs hiera
sib æt-gædere,
æg-hwylc óðrum trywe.
Swylce þær Hunferþ þyle
æt fótum sæt
freán Scyldinga;
2330 ge-hwylc hiora
his ferhðe treówde
þ he hæfde môd micel,
þeáh he his magum
nære êr-fæst
æt ecga ge-lácum.
Spræc þá †....
ides Scyldinga:
on-fóh þissum fulle
freó-drihten mín,
2340 sinces brytta,
þú on sælum wes
2 gold-wine gumena,
and tó Geátum spræc
4 mildum wordum
swá sceal man dón;
beó wið Geátas glæd,
geofena ge-myndig

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neán and feorran;
þú nú hafast,
2350 me man sægde,
þæt þú ðe for sunu wolde
here-ríc habban;
Heorot is ge-fælsod
4 beáh-sele beo[rna];
brûc þenden þú móte
manigra mé[da],
and þínum magum læf
folc and ríce
þonne ðú forð scyle
2360 metod-sceaft seón:
ic ....mínne can
glædne Hróþ-ulf
þ he þa g[eó]goðe wile
4 árum healdan,
gyf þú ær þoñ he,
wine Scyldinga,
worold of-lætest:
wéne ic þ he mid góde
gyldan wille
2370 uncran eaferan,
gyf he þ eal ge-mon
hwæt wit tó willan
and tó worð-myndum
umbor-wesendum ær
árna ge-fremedon.

2352 here-rinc.

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Hwearf þá bi bence
þær hyre byre wǽron
Hré̆ð-ríc and Hró̆ð-mund
and hæleþa bearn,
2380 giógŏð æt-gædere;
þær se góda sæt
Beó-wulf Geáta
be þē ge-bró̆ðrum twæm.

XVIIJ.

2384 Him wæs ful boren,
and freónd-laþu
wordum be-wægned,
and wunden gold
éstum ge-eáwed,
earm-reáde twá,
2390 hrægl and hringa[s],
heals-beága mæst [156b.]
þára þe ic on foldan
[ge]-frægen hæbbe:
nænigne ic under sweg[le]
sélran hýrde
hord-mádmum hæleþa,
syþðan Hama æt-wæg
to Here-býrhtan[b]yrig
Brósinga mene,
2400 sigle and sinc-fæt;
[s]earo-níðas fealh
Eormen-ríces;
ge-ceás écne ræ̆d.

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Done hring hæfde
Híge-lác Geáta,
nefa Swertinges,
nyhstan síðe,
siðþan he under segne
sinc ealgode,
wæl-reáf wérede;
hyne wyrd for-nam
syþðan he for wlenco
weán ahsode,
fæhðe tó Frysū;
he þa frætwe wæg,
eorclan-stánas
ofer ýða ful,
ríce þeóden,
he under rande ge-cranc:
ge-hwearf þá in francna ræþm
feorh cyninges,
breóst ge-wædu
and sé beáh somod
wyrsan wig-frecan
wæl reáfeden,
æfter gúð-sceare
Geáta leóde
hreá-wíc heoldon.
Heal swége on-feng;
Wealh-ðeó maþelode
heó fore þæm werede spræc:
brúc ðisses beáges,
Beó-wulf leófa,

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2434 hyse mid háele,
and þisses hrægles neót, [157]
þeó ge-streóna,
and g ..... tela,
cen þec mid cræfte
and þyssum cnihtu[m] wes
2440 lára líðe,
ic þe þæs leán ge-man :
hafa[st] þú ge-fered
þ ðe feor and neáh,
2444 ealne wíde-fer[hð] magnanimus
weras ehtigað,
efne swá siide
swá sǽ be-bú[geð]
wind † geard-weallas.
Wes þenden þú lifige
2450 æþ[eling] eádig ;
ic þe an tela
sinc-ge-streóna :
beó þú suna mínū
dædum ge-défe,
dreám-haldende.
Her is æg-hwylc eorl
óþrum ge-trýwe,
módes milde,
man-drihtne heol ;
2460 þegnas syndon ge-þwære,

2436 þeod-g. 2437 ge-þeóh. Th.
2448 windge eard-weallas. 2459 hold.

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246 þeód eal gearo,
druncne dryht-guman
dóð swá ic bidde.
Eóde þá tó setle
þær wæs symbla cyst,
druncon wīn weras,
wyrd ne cúþon
7 geó-sceaft grimne
swà hit à-gangen wearð
eorla manegū
2470 syþðan æfen cwom,
and him Hróþ-gár ge-wát
tó hófe sínum
ríce tó ræste.
Reced weardode
5 un-rím eorla,
swá hīe oft ær dydon,
7 benc-þelu béredon ;
hit geond bræded wearð
2480 beddum and bolstrum,
beor-scealca sum,
fús and fæge,
flet-ræste ge-[beáh] : [157b.]
sæton him tó heáfdon
hilde-randas,
6 [b]ord-wudu beorhtan ;
þær on bence wæs,
ofer æþelinge
ýþ-ge-séne,
2490 heaþo-steápa helm,

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hringed byrne,
þrec-wudu þrym-líc;
wæs [þ]eáw hyra
þ hie oft wæron
an wíg gearwe,
ge æt hám ge on herge,
ge ge-hwæþer þára
efne swylce mæla
swylce hira man-dryht[ne]
2500 þearf ge-sælde,
wæs seó þeód tilu.

XVIIII.

Sigon þá tó slæpe;
sum sáre an-geald
æfen-ræste,
swá him ful oft ge-lamp
siþðan gold-sele
Grendel farode,
un-riht æfnde
oþ þ ende be-cwom,
2510 swylt æfter synnum:
þ ge-sýne wearþ,
wíd-cúþ werum,
þte wrecend þá gyt
lifde æfter láþū,
lange þrage
æfter gúð-ceare;
Grendles módor
ides ag-læc wíf

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yrmþe ge-munde,
2520 se þe wæter-egesan
wunian scolde,
cealde streámas
siþðan camp wearð
tó ecg-banan
ángan bréþer,
fæderen mæge:
he þá fág ge-wát
morþre ge-mearcod,
[m]an-dreám fleón; [158]
2530 westen warode;
þ[anon wóc] fela
2 geó-sceaft gásta,
wæs þára Grend[el] sum
4 heoro-wearh hete-lic,
se æt Heorote fand
wæccendne wer
wíges bídan,
þær him [se] ag-læca
æt græpe wearð;
2540 hwæþre he ge-munde
mægenes strenge,
gim-fæste gife
3 ðe him god sealde,
4 and him to an-waldan
áre ge-lyfde,
frófre and fultum,

2523 Cain á-wearð, vid. pp. 8, 9.

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2547 Ðý he þone feónd ofer-cwom,
ge-hnægde helle-gást;
þá he heán ge-wât,
2550 dreáme be-dæled,
deáþ-wîc [ge]-seón,
man-cynnes feónd;
and his módor þá gyt
gifre and galg-mód
ge-gán wolde
sorh-fulne síð,
sunu þeód-wrecan.
Com þá tó Heorote
ðær Hring-Dene
2560 geond þ sæld swæfun.
Ðá ðær sóna wearð
ed-hwyrft eorlum,
siþðan inne fealh
Grendles módor;
wæs se grýre læssa
efne swá micle
swá bið mægþa cræft,
wíg-grýre wífes,
be wæpned-men,
2570 þoñ heoru-bunden
hamere ge-þuren,
sweord swáte fáh,
swín ofer helme,
ecgum..... [158b.]

2574 [þyhtig]. T.

and-weard scireð.
Ðá wæs on healle
heard ecg togen,
sweord ofer setlum,
síd-rand manig
2580 hafen handa fæst,
helm ne ge-munde,
byrnan síde,
þá hine se bróga an-geat.
Heó wæs on ófste,
wolde út þanon
feore beorgan,
þá heó on-funden wæs;
hraðe heó æþelinga
ánne hæfde
2590 fæste be-fangen,
þá heó tó fenne gang,
se wæs Hróþ-gáre
hæleþa leófost
on ge-síðes hád
be sǽm tweonū,
ríce rand-wiga
þone ðe heó on ræste á-breat,
blǽd-fæstne beorn;
næs Beó-wulf ðær,
2600 ac wæs óþer in
ær ge-teohhod
æfter máþðum-gife
mǽrum Geáte.
Hreám wearð on Heorote.

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heó under heolfre ge-nam
cúþe folme;
cearu wæs ge-niwod
ge-worden in wícun,
ne wæs þ ge-wrixle til,
2610 þ híe on bá healfa
bicgan scoldon
freónda feorū.
Ðá wæs fród cyning,
hâr hilde-rinc,
on hreón móde, [159]
syðþan he aldor-ðegn
un-lyfi[gendne],
þone deórestan
deádne wisse.
2620 Hra[þe wæs] tó búre
Beó-wulf fetod,
sigor-eádig secg
samod ær-dæge;
eóde eorla sum,
æþele cempa
self mid ge-síðum,
þær se snottra bâd
hwæþre him alf-walda
æfre wille
2630 æfter weá-spelle
wyrpe ge-fremman.
Gáng ðá æfter flóre

2608 wícum.

fyrd-wyrðe man
mid his hand-scale,
heal-wudu dynede,
þ he þone wísan
wordum hnæg[de]
freán Ing-wina;
frægn gif him wǽre
æfter neód-laðu
niht ge-tǽse.

XX.

Hróð-gár maþelode
helm Scyldinga:
ne frin þú æfter sǽlū,
sorh is ge-niwod
Denigea leódum,
deád is Æsc-here
Yrmen-láfes
yldra bróþor,
mín rûn-wita,
and mín ræd-bora,
eaxl-ge-stealla
ðonne we on or-lege
hafelan wéredon,
þoñ hniton feþan
éoferas cnysedan;
[á] scolde eorl [159b.]
wesan ǽr-god

2656 cnysedon. 2657 [swylc]. T.

swylc Æsc-here [wæs].
Wearð him on Heorote
2660 tó hand-banan
wæl-gæst wæfre ;
ic ne wât hwæþer
átol æsc-wlanc
eft-síðas teáh,
fylle ge-frægnod ;
heó þa fæhðe wræc
þe þú gystran niht
Grendel cwealdest,
þurh hæstne hád
2670 heardu clammum ;
for-þan he tó lange
leóde míne
wanode and wyrde ;
he æt wíge ge-crang
ealdres scyldig,
and nú óþer cwom
mihtig mán-scaða,
wolde hyre mæg wrecan
ge-feor hafað
2680 fæhðe ge-stæled :
þæs þe þincean mæg
þegne monegum
se þe æfter sinc-gyfa
on sefan greóteþ,
hreþer bealo-hearde ;

2683 gyfan.

nú seó hand lig[eð]
se þe eów wel hwylcra
wilna dóhte.
Ic þ lond-búend
2690 leóde míne,
sele-rædende
secgan hyrde,
þ hie ge-sawon
swylce twegen
micle mearc-stapan
móras healdan,
ellor-gæstas,
ðæra óðer wæs,
þæs þe hie ge-wís-lícost
2700 ge-witan meahton,
idese on-lícnæs,
óðer earm-sceapen
on weres wæstmum
wræc-lastas træd, [160]
næfne he wæs mára þoñ
ænig[....] óðer
þone on gear-dagū
Grendel nem[don]
fold-búende:
2710 nó hie fæder cunnon
hwæ[þer] him ænig wæs
ær á-cenned,
dyrnra gæsta;

2701 on-lícnes. 2706 [man]. T.

híe dygel lond
warigeaď wulf-hleóďu,
2716 wind[ige] næssas,
frecne fen-ge-lád,
ďær firgen-streám
under næssa ge-nipu
2720 niþer ge-wíteď,
flód under foldan;
nis þ feor heonon
mil ge-mearces
þ se mere standeď,
ofer þæm hongiaď
hrinde-bearwas;
wudu wyrtū fæst
wæter ofer-helmaď:
þær mæg nihta ge-hwæm
2730 níď-wundor seón
fýr on flóde;
nó þæs fród leofaď
gumena bearna
þ þone grund wite;
þeáh þe hæď-stapa
hundū ge-swenced
heorot hornū trum,
holt-wudu séce
feorran ge-flymed,
2740 ær he feorh seleď
aldor on ofre,
ær he in wille:

*.....hafelan....
nis þ beoru-stów ;
þonon ýð-ge-blond
up-á-stígeð
won tó wolcnum,
þon̄ wind styreð
láð ge-widru,
oð þ lyft drysmaþ,
roderas reótað.
Nú is se ræd ge-lang
eft æt [ðe] ánū ;
eard git ne const,
frecne stówe,
[þær] þú findan miht
fela-synnigne secg :
[séc] gif þú dyrre,
ic þe þa fæhðe
feo leánige,
eald-ge-streónū,
swá ic ær dyde,
wundum golde,
gyf þú on weg cymest.

Now is the [illegible] again broken! thee only

XXI.

Beó-wulf maþelode
bearn Ecg-þeo-[w]es :

* ? Nis þ hafelan stede. There is no lacuna in the MS., but the sense and metre are imperfect as it stands.
2760 wunden. T.

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ne sorga snotor guma,
sélre biþ ǽg-hwæm
þ he his freónd wrece
2770 þonne he fela murne : that he mourn f 57
úre ǽg-hwylc sceal
ende ge-bídan
worolde lífes,
wyrce se þe móte
dómes ǽr deáþe;
þ biþ driht-guman
un-lífgendum
æfter sélest :
â-ris ríces weard,
2780 uton hraþe feran
Grendles magan
gan sceáwigan.*
Ic hit þe ge-háte,
no he on helm losaþ,
né on foldan fæþm,
né on fyrgen-holt, h 57
né on gyfenes grund,
gâ þær he wille.
Ðys dogor þú
2790 ge-þyld hafa
weána ge-hwylces
swá ic þe wéne tó.
Á-hleóp þá se gomela,

* Over the *n* in gan, in a hand apparently as old as the rest, stands *g*.
2784 holm. T.

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Gode þancode
mihtigan drihtne
þæs se man ge-s[præc].
Ðá wæs Hróð-gáre
hors ge-[báted],
wicg wunden-feax.
2800 Wísa fengel
geato[lic] gende;
gum-feþa stóp
lind-hæbbendra,
last[as] wǽron
æfter wald-swaþū
wíde ge-sýne;
gang ofer grundas
gegnū fór;
ofer myrcan mór
2810 mago-þegna bær
þone sélestan
sáwol-leásne
þára þe mid Hróð-gáre
hâm eahtode.
Ofer-eóde þá
æþelinga bearn
steáp stán-hliðo,
stíge nearwe,
enge án-paðas,
2820 un-cúð ge-lád,
neowle næssas,
nicor-húsa fela.
He feara sum

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be-foran gengde,
wísra monna
wong sceáwian,
oþ þ he færinga
fyrgen-beámas
ofer hárne stán
hleónian funde,
wyn-leásne wudu,
wæter under stód
dreórig and ge-dréfed,
Denum eallum wæs,
winum Scyldinga,
weorce on móde
tó ge-þolianne,
ðegne monegū,
ón-cýð eorla ge-hwæm,
syðþan Æsc-heres
on þā holm-clife
hafelan métton.
Flód blóde weol,
folc tó-sægon,
[hátan] heolfre: [161b.]
horn stundum song
fús-[líc grýre]-leóð;
feþa eal ge-scæt;
ge-sawon ðá æfter [w]ætere
wyrm-cynnes fela,
sel-líce sæ-dracan
sund cunnian,
swylce on nás-hleóðum

nicras licgean,
ðá on undern-mél
oft be-witigað
sorh-fulne síð
on segl-ráde,
wyrmas and wildeór;
2860 híe on-weg hruron
bitere and ge-bolgne,
bearhtm on-geaton,
9 gúð-horn galan; p59
sumne Geáta leód
of flán-bogan
feores ge-twæfde,
ýð-ge-winnes,
þ him on aldre stód
9 here-stræl hearda;
2870 he on holme wæs
1 sundes þe sænra
þe hyne swylt for-nam.
Hraþe wearð on ýðum
mid eofer-spreótum.
5 heoro-hóc yhtum, p59
hearde ge-nearwod,
níða ge-næged,
and on næs togen,
wundorlíc wæg-bora;
2880 weras sceáwedon
grýre-lícne gist.

2868 þá.

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Gyrede hine Beó-wulf
eorl ge-wædum,
nalles for ealdre mearn :
scolde here-byrne
hondum ge-broden,
síd and searo-fáh,
sund cunnian,
seo ðe bân-cofan
beorgan cúþe,
þ him hilde-gráp
hreþre ne mihte,
eorres in-wit-feng
aldre ge-sceþðan :
ac se hwíta helm
hafelan wérede, [f. 162]
se þe mere-grundas
men[gan] scolde,
sécan sund-ge-bland,
since ge-weorðad ;
be-fongen freá-wrásnum,
swa híne fyrn-dagum
worhte wæpna smið,
wundrum teóde,
be-sette swín-lícum,
þ hine syðþan nó
brond né beado-mecas
bítan ne meahton :
næs þæt þonne mætost
mægen-fultuma
þ him on ðearfe láh

ðyle Hróð-gáres;
wæs þam hæft-mece
Hrunting nama,
þ wæs anforan
eald-ge-streona;
ecg wæs íren
áter-tánum fáh,
á-hyrded heaþo-sváte,
2920 næfre hit æt hilde ne swác
manna ǽngum
þára þe hit mid mundum bewand,
se ðe grýre-síðas
ge-gán dorste,
folc-stede fara;
næs þ forma síð
þ hit ellen-weorc
æfnan scolde.
Huru ne ge-munde
2930 mago Ecg-lafes,
eafoðes cræftig,
þ he ár ge-spræc
wíne druncen,
þá he þæs wæpnes on-láh
sélran sweord-frecan:
selfa ne dorste
under ýða ge-win
aldre ge-néþan,
driht-scype dreógan,

2925 faran.

2940 þær he dóme for-leás
ellen-[weor]ðum ; [f. 162b.]
ne wæs þém óðrum swá
syðþan he hine tó gúðe
ge-gyred hæfde.

XXIJ.

Beó-wulf maðelode
bearn Ecg-þeowes :
ge-þenc nú se méra
maga Healf-denes,
snottra fengel,
2950 nú ic eóm síðes fús,
gold-wine gumena,
hwæt wit geó spræcon ;
gif ic æt þearfe
þínre scolde
aldre linnan,
þ ðú me á wære
forð-ge-wítenum
on fæder stæle ;
wæs þú mund-bora
2960 mínum mago-þegnum,
hond-ge-sellum,
gif mec hild nime :
swylce þú ða mádmas
þe þú me sealdest,
Hróð-gár leófa,
Hige-láce on-send :
mæg þonne on þém golde on-gitan

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Geáta dryhten,
ge-seón sunu Hrædles
2970 þon̄ he on þ sinc stáraď,
þ ic gū-cystum
gódne funde
beága bryttan;
breác þon̄ móste:
and þú Hun-ferď læt
6 ealde-láfe,
7 wræt-líc wæg-sweord,
wíd-cúďne man,
heard ecg habban;
2980 ic me mid Hruntinge
dôm ge-wyrce,
oþďe mec deáď nimeď. [f. 163]
Æfter þæm [wordum]
Weder-Geáta leód
éfste mid elne,
nalas and-sware
bídan wolde;
2988 brim-wylm on-feng
hilde-rince.
2990 Ðá wæs hwíl dæges
ér he þone grund-wong
on-gytan méhte.
Sona þ on-funde
se ďa flóda be-gong
heoro-gifre be-heold
6 hund missera,
grim and grædig,

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þ þær gumena sum
æl-wihta eard
3000 ufan cunnõ[de]:
gráp þá tó-geanes,
gúð-rinc ge-feng
át[olan] clommum;
no þý ær in ge-scód
halan líce,
hring útan ymb-beárh,
þ heo þone fyrd-hom
ðurh-fón ne mihte,
locene leód-syrcan
3010 láþan fingrum;
bær þá seó brim-wyl,
þá héó tó botme com,
hringa þengel
tó hófe sínum,
swá he ne mihte,
nó hę þǽm módig wæs,
wæpna ge-wealdan;
ac hine wundra þæs fela
swecte on sunde,
3020 sǽ-deór monig
hilde-tuxum
here-syrcan bræc,
ehton æg-læcan;
ðá se eorl on-geat
þ he níð-sele

3010 wylf.

nát hwylcum wæs,
þær him nænig wæter
wihte ne sceþede,
né him for hróf-sele
3030 hrínan ne mêhte
fær-grípe flódes,
[fýr-leó]ht ge-seah, [163b.]
blácne leóman.
beorhte [scínan]:
on-geat þá se góda
grund-wyrgenne,
mere-wíf mihtig
mægen-ræs for-geaf
hilde bille,
3040 hord-swenge ne of-teáh
þ hire on hafelan
hring-mál á-gól
grædig gúð-leóð:
[þ]á se gist on-fand
þ se beado-leóma
bítan nolde,
aldre sceþðan,
ac seó ecg ge-swác
[þ]eódne æt þearfe,
3050 [ðolode ær fela
hond-[ge]-móta,
helm oft ge-scær
fæges fyrd-[hr]ægl,
ðá wæs forma síð
deórum mádme

3056 þ his dôm á-læg]
eft wæs an-ræd,
nalas elnes [l]æt;
mǽrða ge-myndig,
3060 mǽg Hy-láces
wearp ða wundel-mǽl,
wrættum ge-bunden,
yrre oretta,
þ hit on eorðan læg
stíð and styl-ecg,
strenge ge-trúwode,
mund-grípe mægenes,
swá sceal man dón
þon̄ he æt gúðe
3070 ge-gán þenceð
long-sumne lóf.
ná ymb his líf cearað.
Ge-feng ðá be eaxle,
nalas for fǽhðe mearn,
gúð-Geáta leód
Grendles módor;
brægd þa beadwe-heard
þá he ge-bolgen wæs
feorh-ge-niðlan
3080 þ heó on flet ge-beáh;
heo him eft hraþe
hand-leán for-geald

3060 Hige-láces. 3061 wunden.
3063 stillicg, or stillig. T.

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grimman grápum, [f. 164]
and him tó-geanes feng;
3085 ofer-wearp þá wérig-mód
wígena strengest,
feþe cempa,
þ he on fylle wearð;
of-sæt þá þone sele-gyst
3090 and hyre seaxe ge-teáh,
brád brûn ecg,
wolde hire bearn wrecan,
ángan eaferan;
him on eaxle læg
breóst-net broden,
þ ge-beárh feore
wiðð ord and wiðð ecge,
in-gang for-stóde:
hæfde ðá for-síðod
3100 sunu Ecg-þeowes
und[er] gynne-grund,
Geáta cempa,
nemne him heaðo-byrne
helpe ge-fremede,
here-net hearde,
and hálig Gód
ge-weold wíg-sígor,
wítig drihten,
rodera rædend,
3110 hit on ryht ge-sced

3099 forð-s. T.

yðe-líce;
syþðan he eft á-stód.

XXIIJ.

3113 Ge-seah ðá on searwum
síge-eádig bil,
ealdsweord eótenisc,
6 ecgum þyhtig,
wígena weorð-mynd,
þ wæpna cyst,
[buton hit wæs mǽre ðonne
3120 ǽnig mon óðer
tó beadu-láce
æt-beran meahte,]
gôd and geato-líc,
giganta ge-weorc:
5 he ge-feng þa fetel-hilt, 164
freca Scyldinga,
hreoh and heoro-grim
hring-mǽl ge-brægd,
aldres or-wéna
3130 yrringa [s]lóh, 164 [f. 164b.]
þ hire wiðhalse
heard grápode;
3 bán-hringas bræc, 164
bil eal þurh-wód
fǽgne flǽsc-homan;
heó on flet ge-crong:

3118 wæs w. c.

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sweord wæs swátig,
secg weorce ge-féh,
lixte se leóma,
3140 leóht inne stód,
efne swá of hefene
hádre scíneð
3 rodores candel, h 64
he æfter recede wlát:
Hwearf þá-be wealle,
6 wæpen hafena[dē]
heard be hiltum,
Hige-láces ðegn,
yrre [and] un-ræd;
3150 næs seó ecg fracod
hilde-rince,
ac he hraþe wolde
Grendle for-gyldan
gúð-ræsa fela
ðára þe he ge-worhte
tó West-denum
oftor micle
ðonne on ǽnne síð,
þoñ he Hróð-gáres
3160 heorð-ge-neátas
slóh on sweofote,
slǽpende fræt
folces Denigea
fýf-tyne men,

3149 an-r. T.

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and óðer swylc
út of-ferede
láð-lícu lác;
he him þæs leán for-geald,
reþe cempa
3170 tó ðæs þe he on ræste ge-seah
gúð-wérigne
Grendel licgan,
aldor-leásne,
swá him ær ge-scód
hild æt Heorote;
hrá wíde sprong,
syþðan he æfter deáðe
drepe þrowade,
heorp-sweng heardne,
3180 and hine þa heafde be-cearf
Sona þ ge-sawon
snottre ceorlas
þa ðe mid Hróð-gáre
on holm w[liton],
þ wæs ýð-geblond
eal ge-menged,
brim blóde fáh:
blonden-feaxe
gomele ymb gódne
3190 on-geador spræcon,
þ hig þæs æðelinges
eft ne wéndon
þ he síge-hreþig
sécean come

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mærne þeóden;
þá þæs monige ge-wearð
þ hine seó brim-wylf
á-breóten hæ[f]de:
ðá com nón dæges
3200 næs of-geafon
hwáte Scyldingas;
ge-wát him hám þonon
gold-[wíne] gumena
gistas sécan,
módes seóce,
and o[n] mere stáredon
wiston and ne wéndon þ híe
heora wine-drihten
selfne ge-sawon.
3210 Ðá þ sweord on-gan
æfter heaðo-swáte,
2 hilde-gicelum, 66
3 wíg-bil wanian;
þ wæs wundra sum,
þ hit eal ge-mealt
íse ge-lícost,
ðon forstes bend
fæder on-læteð,
9 on-winðeð wæ[g]-rápas,
3220 se [þe] ge-weald hafað
sæla and mæla,
þ is sóð metod.
Ne nom he in þém wícū,
Weder-Geáta leód,

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máðm-ahta má,
þéh he þær monige ge-seah,
buton þone hafelan
and þa hilt somod,
since fáge,
3230 sweord ær ge-mealt,
for-barn broden-mæl,
wæs þ blód [t]ó þæs hát
áttren ellor-gæst
se þær inne swealt.
Sona wæs on sunde
se þe ær æt sæcce ge-bád
wíg-hrýre wráþra,
wæter úp-þurh-deaf,
wæron ýð-geblond
3240 eal ge-fælsod,
eácne eardas,
þá se ellor-gæst
of-let líf-dagas
and þas lænan ge-sceaft.
Com þá tó lande
líd-manna helm
swíð-mód swymman,
sæ-láce ge-feah,
mægen-[by]rþenne
3250 þára þe he him mid hæfde.
Eódon him þá tó geánes,
Gode þancodon
ðryð-líc ðegna heáp,
þeódnes ge-fegon

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þæs þe hí hyne ge-sundne
ge-seón mósťon:
7 ðá wæs of þæm hróran
helm and byrne
lungre á-lýsed,
3260 lagu drúsade,
wæter under wolcnúm,
wæl-dreóre fág.
Ferdon forð ðonon
feþe-lastum
ferhþum fægne
fold-weg mæton
cúþe stræte,
cyning-balde men,
from þæm holm-clife
hafelan bæron
3270 earfoð-líce,
heora ég-hwæþrū
fela módigra:
feower scoldon
on þæm wæl-stenge
weorcum ge-ferian
to þæm gold-sele
Grendles heáfod;
oþ ðæt semninga [f. 166]
to sele comon
3280 frome fyrd-hwáte,
feower-tyne
Geáta gongan
gu[m]-drihten mid;

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módig on ge-monge
meod[o]-wongas træd.
Ðá com in-gán
ealdor ðegna,
dæd-céne mon
dóme ge-wurþ[ad],
3290 hæle hilde-deór,
Hróð-gár grétan :
þá wæs be feaxe
on flet boren
Grendles heáfod,
þær guman druncon,
eges-líc f[or] eorlum,
and þære idese mid
wlíte seón wr[æt]líc
weras on-sawon.

XXIIII.

3300 Beó-wulf maþelode
bearn Ecg-þeowe[s] :
hwæt, we þe þas sǽ-lác,
sunu Healf-denes,
leód Scyldinga,
lustu brohton
tíres tó tácne,
þe þú her tó-locast.
Ic þ un-sófte
ealdre ge-dígde
3310 wígge under wætere,
weorc ge-néþde

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earfoð-líce ;
æt rihte wæs
gúð ge-twæfed
nymðe mec God scylde.
Ne meahte ic æt hilde
mid Hruntinge
wiht ge-wyrcan,
þeah þ wæpen dúge,
3320 ac me ge-úðe
ylda waldend
þ ic on wage ge-seah
wlítig [han]gian [f. 166b.]
eald sweord eácen,
oftost wísode
6 wénigea-leásum
þ ic ðý wæpne ge-bræd.
[O]f-slów þá æt þére sæcce,
þá me sæl á-geald,
3330 húses hyrdas ;
þá þ hilde-bil
2 for-[barn] brogden-mæl, b 65
swá þ blód ge-sprang
[h]átost heaþo-swáta,
ic þ hilt þanon
feóndum æt-ferede ;
fyren-dæda wræc,
deáð-cwealm Denigea,
swá hit ge-défe wæs.

3328 of-slóh.

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3340 Ic hit þe þon̄ ge-háte
þ̄ þú on Heorote móst
[s]orh-leás swefan
mid þínra secga ge-dryht,
and þegna ge-hwylc[um]
þínra leóda,
duguðe and iógoðe,
þ̄ þú him on-drædan ne þearft
on þá healfe,
þeóden Scyldinga,
3350 aldor-bealu eorlum,
swá þú ǽr dydest.
Ðá wæs gylden hilt
gamelum rince,
4 hárum hild-fruman, 6 9
on hand gyfen,
6 enta ǽr-geweorc;
hit on æht ge-hwearf
æfter deófla hrýre,
Denigea freán,
3360 wundor-smiþa ge-weorc,
and þá þas worold of-geaf
grom-heort guma,
godes and-saca,
morðres scyldig,
and his módor eác,
on ge-weald ge-hwearf
worold-cyninga
þǽm sǽlestan
be sǽm tweónū, [f. 167]

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3370 ðára ðe on Sceden-igge
[sceat]tas dælde.
Hróð-gár maðelode,
hilt sceáwode
ealde láfe,
on þǽm wæs ôr-wri[ten]
fyrn ge-winnes,
syþðan flód of-s[lóh],
gifen geótende,
giganta cyn;
3380 frecne [ge]-ferdon,
þ wæs fremde þeód
écean driht[ne],
him þæs ende-leán
þurh wæteres wylm
waldend sealde:
swá wæs on þæm scen[ne]
scíran goldes
þurh rún-stafas
rihte [ge]-mearcod,
3390 ge-seted and ge-sǽd,
hwám þ swe[ord] ge-worht,
írenna cyst,
ǽrest wǽre,
wr[eoþen]-hylt and wyrm-fáh.
Ðá se wísa spræc
su[nu] Healf-denes,
swígedon ealle:
þ lá mæg secgan
se þe sóð and riht

3400 freme ð on folce,
feor eal ge-mon
eald ·ꝏ· wear[d],
þ ðes eorl wære
ge-boren betera.
Blæd [is] á-ræred
geond wíd-wegas,
wine mín Beó-[wulf],
þín ofer þeóda ge-hwylce.
Eal þú hit ge-þyldum healdest
3410 mægen mid módes snyttrum;
ic þe sceal míne ge-læstan
freoðe swá wit furðum spræcon;
ðú scealt tó frófre weorþan,
eal-lang twidig,
leódū þínu,
[hæl]eðum to helpe: [167b.]
ne wearð Here-mód [swá]
eaferum Ecg-welan
ár Scyldingum;
3420 [ne] ge-weox he him tó willan
ac to wæl-feal[le],
and to deáð-cwalum,
Deniga leódū;
breát [bol]gen-mód
beód-ge-neátas,
eaxl-ge-[ste]allan,
oþ þ he ána hwearf,
mære þe[ód]en,
mon-dreámū from:

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3430 ðeáh þe hine [mi]htig God
mægenes wynnū,
eafeðum [st]épte
ofer ealle men,
forð ge-freme[d]e,
3433 5 hwæþere him on ferhðe greów
breóst-[h]ord blód-reów,
nallas beágas geaf
Denum æfter dóme;
dreám-leás ge-bâd
3440 þ he þæs ge-winnes
weorc þrówade,
2 leód-bealo long-sum;
þú þe lær be þon,
gū-cyste on-git:
ic þis gid be þe
á-wræc wintrum fród,
wundor is tó secganne
hú mihtig God
manna cynne
3450 þurh sídne sefan
snyttru bryttað,
2 eard and eorl-scipe, valour I/p 705
heáh ealra ge-weald;
4 hwílū he on lufan
læteð hworfan
6 monnes mód-ge-þonc
mæran cynnes,
seleð him on éþle
eorþan wynne

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3460 tó healdanne,
hleó-burh wera,
ge-déð him swá ge-wealdene
worolde [dæl]as
þ he his selfa ne mæg
his un-snyttrum
ende ge-þencean;
wunað he on wiste,
ne hine wiht dweleð
ád[l] né yldo,
3470 né him in-wit-sorh
on sefa[n] sweorceð,
né ge-sacu ó-hwær
ecg-he[te] eóweþ,
ac him eal worold
wendeð on w[il]lan;
he þ wyrse ne con.

XXV.

Oð þ him on innan
ofer-hygda dæl
weax[eð] and wríðaþ,
3480 þoñ se weard swefeð,
sáwele h[yrde];
bið se slæp tó fæst
bisgum ge-bunde[n],
bona swíðe neáh
se þe of flán-bogan
fyrenum sceóteð;
þoñ bið on hreðre

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under helm drepen
biteran stræle,
3490 him be-beorgan ne con
wom wundor-be-bodum
wergan gástes;
3 þinceð him tó lytel
þ he tó lange heold,
gytsað grom-hydig,
nallas on gylp seleð
fædde beágas,
9 and he þa forð-ge-sceaft
for-gyteð and for-gýmeð
3500 þæs þe him ár God sealde,
wuldres [wal]dend, [168b.]
weorð-mynda dæl.
3 Hit on ende-stæf
oft ge-límpeð
þ se líc-homa
6 láne ge-dreóseð,
fége ge-fealleð,
féhð oþer....,
se þe un-murnlíce
3510 mádmas dæleþ,
[eor]les ár-ge-streón,
egesan ne gýmeð.
[Be]-beorh þe þone bealo-níð,
Beó-wulf leófa,
secg betsta,

3508 [tó]. T. 3515 secga. T.

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and þe þ sélre ge-ceós,
éce rædas;
[óf]er-hyda ne gým
mære cempa;
3520 nú is þines [m]ægnes blæd
áne hwíle,
eft sona biþ
þ [þ]ec ádl, oþþe ecg,
eafoþes ge-twæfeþ,
5 oþþe [fý]res feng,
oþþe flódes wylm,
oþþe grípe [m]eces,
oþþe gáres fliht,
oþþe átol yldo,
3530 [o]þþe eágena bearhtm,
for-siteþ and for-swor[c]eþ:
semninga biþ
þ þec, dryht-guma,
deáð [o]fer-swýþeð.
Swá ic Hring-Dena
hund missera
weold under wolcnum,
and híg wígge be-leác
manegum mægþa
3540 geond þisne middan-geard,
æscū and ecgum;
þ ic me ænigne
under swegles be-gong
4 ge-sacan ne tealde:
hwæt, me þæs on éþle

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ed-wendan cwom
gyrn æfter gomene,
seoþðan Grendel wearð,
eald-ge-winna,
3550 in-genga mín:
/ ic þére sócne [f. 169]
singales wæg
ɔ mód-cear[e] micle.
þæs síg metode þanc,
écean [driht]ne,
þæs þe ic on aldre ge-bád
þ ic on þone hafelan
heoro-dreórigne,
ofer eald [ge]-win,
3560 eágum stárige.
Gá nú tó setle,
Z symbel-wynne dreóh,
wíg-ge-weorþad:
unc [sceal] worn fela
máþma ge-mǽnra
siþðan [mor]gen bið.
Geát wæs glæd-mód
geong sona [tó]
setles neósan,
3570 swá se snottra héht.
Ð[á wæs] eft swá ǽr
ellen-rófum,
ɔ flet-sittendum,
fægere ge-reorded
ʃ niówan stefne.

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Ni[ht]-helm ge-swearc
deorc ofer dryht-gum[an];
dugu ð eal á-rás;
wolde blonden-feax
3580 bed[d]es neósan,
gamela Scylding;
Geát unig-metes wel
rófne rand-wígan
restan lys[te];
sona him sele-þegn
sí ðes wergu,
feorran-cundum
for ð wísade,
se for and-rysnum
3590 ealle be-weotene
þegnes þearfe,
swylce þý dogore
heaþo-lí ðende
habban scoldon.
Reste hine þa rúm-heort,
reced hlinade
geáp and gold-fáh;
gæst inne swæf
oþ þ hræ[fn] bláca
3600 heofones wynne
blí ð-heort bódode;
[.....] beorht scacan. [169b.]
Scaþan on-etton,

3596 hlifade. T. 3601 *Folium de-est.* T.

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[wǽron] æþelingas
eft tó leódum
fúse tó farenne;
wolde feor þanon
cuma col[len]-ferhð
ceóles neósan.
3610 Héht þá se hearda
[H]runting beran
sunu Ecg-láfes,
héht sweord niman,
leóf-líc íren;
sǽgde him [þ]æs leánes þanc,
6 cwæð he þone gúð-wine
[gód]ne tealde.
wíg-cræftigne;
nales [wor]dum lóg
3620 meces ecge:
Þ wæs módig secg.
[Ð]á síð-frome,
searwū gearwe
wígend wǽron,
[e]óde weorð Denum
6 æþeling to yppan,
[þær] se óþer wæs,
8 helle hilde-deór
Hróð-gár grétte.

XXVI.

3630 [B]eó-wulf maþelode
bearn Ecg-þeówes:

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nú [w]e sæ-líðend
secgan wyllað,
feorran cumene,
þ we fundiaþ
Hige-lác sécan,
wæron her tela
willū be-wenede,
þú us wel dóhtest.
3640 Gif ic þonne on eorþan
ó-wihte mæg
2 þínre mód-lufan
máran tilian,
gumena dryhten,
ðonne ic gyt dyde,
gúð-ge-weorca,
ic beó gearo sona,
gif ic þ ge-fricge [170]
ofer flóda be-gang
3650 þ þec ymb-sittend
1 egesan þywað,
[swá þec hetende (those) hating thee
hwílum dydon.]
Ic þe þusenda
þegna bri[n]ge,
hæleþa to helpe:
ic on Hige-láce wat,
Geáta dryhten,
þeáh þe he geóng sý

3638 þenede. T.

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3660 folces hyrde,
þ he mec fremman wile
weordum and worcum
þ ic þe wel her[ige],
and þe tó geóce
gár-holt bere,
mægenes fultum
þær þe biðð manna þearf;
g[if] him þonne Hreð-rinc
tó hófum Geáta
3670 ge-þinged þeódnes bearn,
he mæg þær fela
freónda findan;
feor-cýþðe beóð
sélran ge-sóhte
þém þe him selfa deáh.
Hróð-gár maþelode
him on and-sware:
þe þa word-cwydas
wigtig dryhten
3680 on sefan sende;
ne hýrde ic snotorlicor,
on swá geóngum feore,
guman þingian.
Ðú eart mægenes strang
and on móde fród,
wís word-cwida;
wén ic tálige

3670 ge-þingað. 3679 wittig. T.

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gif þ ge-gangeð
þ þe gár nymeð,
3690 hild heoru-grimme,
Hreþles eaferan,
ádl oþðe íren,
ealdor ðínne,
folces hyrde,
and þú þín feorh hafast,
þ þe [S]æ-Geátas
sélran næbben
tó ge-ceósen[ne]
cyning ænigne,
3700 hord-weard hæleþa,
[g]if þú healdan wylt
maga ríce.
Me þín mód-sefa
líca ð leng sw wel
leófa Beó-[w]ulf:
hafast þú ge-fered
þ þám folcum [s]ceal,
Geáta leódum
and Gár-denum,
3710 sib [ge]-mænum
and sacu restan,
Zin-wit-níþas
[þ]e híe ær drugon;
wesan þenden ic weal[de]
wídan ríces

3706 ge-grétan.

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máþmas ge-mǽne;
manig óþerne
gódum ge-gréttan
ofer ganotes bæð;
3720 sceal hring-naca
ofer heáþu bringan
lâc and luf-tácen.
Ic þa leóde wát
ge wið feónd ge wið freónd
fǽste ge-worhte,
ǽg-hwæs un-tǽle
ealde wísan.
Đá git him eorla hleó
inne ge-sealde,
3730 mago Healf-denes,
máþmas XII.
hét inne mid þǽm lácum
leóde swǽse
sécean on ge-syntum,
snúde eft cuman.
Ge-cyste þa
cyning æþelum gód,
þeóden Scyldinga
þegn betstan,
3740 and be healse ge-nam;
hrúron him tearas
blonden-feaxum;
him wæs béga wén

3739 þegna.

1744 ealdum in-fródum
óðres swíðor
þ he seoððan [.....]
ge-seón móston,
módige on meþle:
wæs him se man tó þon leóf
3750 þ he þone b[reóst]-wylm
for-beran ne méhte,
ac him [on] hreðre
hyge-bendum fæst,
æfter d[eór]um men
dyrne langað,
beorn wið bl[ó]de.
Him Beó-wulf þanan,
gúð-rinc gold-wlanc,
græs-moldan træd,
3760 since h[ré]mig:
sæ-genga bád
aged freán,
se [þe] on ancre râd.
Þá wæs on gange
gifu Hróð-gáres
oft ge-æhted,
þ wæs án cyning
æg-hwæs or-leahtre,
oþ þ him yldo be-nam
3770 mægenes wynnum,
se þe oft manegum scód.

3760 ágend. 3770 wynna. T.

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XXVIJ.

Cwom þá tó flóde
fela módigra
hæg-stealdra,
hring-net bæron,
locene leóðo-syrcan.
Land-weard on-fand
eft-síð eorla,
swá he ær dyde;
nó he mid hearme
of hliðes nosan
[gæst ne] grétte,
ac him tó-geanes rád;
[cwæð] þ wil-cuman
Wedera leódum
sca[wan] scîr-háme
tó scipe fóron.
Ðá wæs [on] sande
sæ-geáp naca
hladen here-[wæd]um,
hringed stefna
mærum and máð[m]um,
mæst hlifade
ofer Hróð-gáres
hord-ge-streónum:
he þæm bát-wearde
[bun]den golde

3792 mearum.

swurd ge-sealde,
þ he syð[þan] wæs
3800 on meodu-bence
máþma þý weo[rþ]re,
yrfe-láfe.
Ge-wát him on nacan
drefan deóp wæter,
Dena land of-geaf:
þá wæs be mæste
mere-hrægla sum,
segl sále-fæst;
sund-wudu þunede;
3810 no þær weg-flotan
wind ofer ýðum
síðes ge-twæfde;
sæ-genga fór,
fleát fámig-heals
forð ofer ýðe,
bunden-stefna
ofer brim-streámas,
þ híe Geáta clifu
on-gitan meahton,
3820 cúþe næssas.
Ceol up ge-sprang,
lyft-ge-swenced
on lande stód.
Hraþe wæs æt holme [172]
hyð-weard geara,

3810 wæg-flotan.

se þe ær lange tíd
leófra manna
fús æt faroðe
[fær] wlátode :
3830 sælde tó sande
síd-fæþme scip,
on cear-bendum fæst,
þý læs him ýþ-ðrym,
wudu wyn-suman,
for-wrecan [meah]te.
Hét þá up-beran
æþelinga ge-stre[ón],
frætwe and fæt gold ;
næs him feor þan[on]
3840 tó ge-sécanne
sinces bryttan :
Hige-lác Hreðling
þær æt hám wunað,
s[elf] mid ge-síðum
sæ-wealle neáh ;
bold wæs bét-líc,
Brego-róf cyning
heá healle
hygd-swíðe geóng,
3850 wís wel-þungen
þeáh ðe wintra lyt
under burh-locan
ge-biden hæbbe

3832 oncer-b. G. 3833 ýða. T.

Hæreþes dohtor;
næs hió hnáh swá þeáh,
né tó gneáð gifa
Geáta leódum,
máþm-ge-streóna:
mód-þryðo wæg
3860 fremu folces cwen,
áren on-drysne;
nænig þ dorste
deór ge-néþan,
swæsra ge-síða,
[nefne sin-freá,
þ hire án-dæges
eágum stárede,]
ac him wæl-bende,
weotode tealde, [172b.]
3870 hand-ge-wriðene;
hraðe [sy]þðan wæs
æfter mund-grípe
mece ge-þinged,
þ hit sceaden-mæl
scyran móste,
cwealm-bealu cýðan:
ne bið swylc [cwen-]líc þeáw
idese to efnanne,
þeáh þe h[eó] æn-lícu sý,
3880 þ te freoðu-webbe
feores on-sæce

3865 sinc-f. T.
* The second part of the MS. begins here.

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æfter lige torne
leófne mannan :
3884 [h]uru þ on-hohsnod
Hemminges mǽg ;
[eal]o drincende
óðer sǽdon,
þ hió leód-bealewa
læs ge-fremede,
3890 in-wit-níþa,
syððan ǽrest wearð
gyfen gold-hroden
geongū cempan,
æðelum dióre,
syððan heó Offan flet
ofer fealone flód,
be fǽder-láre,
síðe ge-sóhte ;
ðǽr hio syððan well
3900 in gum-stóle
góde mǽre,
líf-ge-sceafta
lifigende breác,
hióld heáh-lufən
wiðð hæleþa brego,
ealles mon-cynnes,
míne ge-frǽge,
bi sǽm twéónū,
þa sélestane
eormen-cynnes ;
3910 forþam Offa wǽs

geofū and gúðū [173]
gár-céne man,
wíd[e ge]-weorðod;
wís-dóme heóld
[geard-]éþel sínne,
þonon geomor wóc
hæleþum to helpe
Heminges mæg,
nefa Gâr-mundes
3920 níþa cræftig.

XXVIII.

3921 Ge-wát him þá se hearda
mid his hond-scóle,
sylf æfter sonde,
sæ-wong tredan,
wíde waroðas;
woruld-candel scân,
sigel súðan fùs.
Hí síð drugon,
elne ge-eódon,
3930 tó ðæ[s þe] eorla hleó,
þonan Ongen-þeóes,
burg[um] in innan,
geongne gúð-cyning
gódne ge-frunon
hringas dælan.
Hige-láce wæs
síð Beó-wulfes
snúðe ge-cýðed,

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þ ðær on worðig
3940 wígendra hleó,
lind-ge-stealla,
lifigende cwom,
heaðó-láces hál
to hófe gongan.
Hraðe wæs ge-rýmed
swá se ríca be-beád
feðe-gestū
flet innan-weard;
ge-sæt þá wið sylfne
3950 se ða sæcce ge-næs,
mǽg wið mǽge,
syððan man-dryhten
þurh hleóðor-cwyde [173b.]
holdne ge-grétte,
meaglum wordū:
meodu-scencū hwearf
geond þ side reced
Hǽreðes dohtor,
lufode ða leóde,
3960 líð-wǽge bær
hænū tó handa.
Hige-lác on-gan
sínne ge-seldan
in sele þā heán
fǽgre fricgean;
hyne fyrwet bræc

3957 síde has been inserted by a more modern hand. ? heal-reced.

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hwylce Sǽ-Geáta
síðas wǽron.
Hú lomp eów on láde
leófa Beó-wulf,
þá ðú fǽringa
feorr ge-hógodest
sǽcce sécean
ofer sealt wǽter,
hilde to Hiorote;
þǽc ðú Hróð-gáre
wið cúðne weán
wihte ge-béttest,
mǽrū ðeódne:
ic ðǽs mód-ceare
sorh-wylmum seáð,
síðe ne trúwode
leófes mannes,
ic ðe lange bǽd
þ ðú ðone wǽl-gǽst
wihte ne grétte,
lete Súð-Dene
sylfe ge-weorðan
gúðe wið Grendel.
Gode ic þanc secge
þǽs ðe ic ðe ge-sundne
ge-seón móste.
Bió-wulf maþelode
bearn Ecg-ðióes:
þ is un-dyrne, [174]
dryhten Hige-lác,

..... ge-meting
monegū fira
hwylce .... hwíl
4000 uncer Grendles
wearð on wange,
þær he worna fela
síge-[Scyl]dingum
sorge ge-fremede,
yrmð[o] tó aldre;
ic þ eall ge-wræc,
swá [ne] gylpan ðearf
Grendeles maga
[ænig] ofer eorðan
4010 uht-hlem ðone,
[se þe] lengest leofað
láðan cynnes,
[fær]-bí-fongen.
Ic ðær furðum cwom
to ðā hring-sele
Hróð-gár grétan;
sona me se mæra
mago Healf-denes,
syððan he mód-sefan
4020 mínne cúðe,
wið his sylfes sunu
setl ge-tæhte:
weorod wæs on wynne,
ne seah ic wídan feorh

4001 on [þám]. T.

under heofones hwealf
4026 heal-sittendra
medu-dreám már[an];
hwílum mæru cwen,
fríðu-sibb folca,
4030 flet eall geond hwearf;
bædde byre geónge;
oft hio beáh wriðan
secge [brytnode]
ær híe to setle geóng; [174b.]
hwílū fo[r dúgu]ðe
dohtor Hróð-gáres,
eorlum [on] ende,
ealu-wæge bær,
þa ic Freá-ware
4040 [flet]-sittende
nemnan hýrde,
2 þær hio [g]led-sinc
hæleþum sealde:
sió ge-háten [wæs]
geóng gold-hroden
gladū suna Fródan,
[ha]fað þæs ge-worden
wine Scyldinga
ríces hyrde,
4050 and þ ræd talað
þ he mid þý [wí]fe
wæl-fæhða dæl,

4032 wriðen. 4042 glæde. T.

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sæcca ge-sette.
Oft [s]eldan hwær.
æfter leód-hrýre,
lytle hwíle,
bon-gár búgeð,
þeáh seó brýd dúge.
[m]æg þæs þoñ of-þyncan
ðeóden Heaþo-[b]eardna
and þegna ge-hwám
þára leóde,
þonne he mid fæmnan
on flett gæð,
dryht-bearn Dena
duguða bi-wénede,
on him gladiað
gomelra láfe,
heard and hring-mæl,
Heaða-bearna ge-streón,
þenden híe ðā wæpnū
wealdan móston.
Oððæt híe for-læddan
tó ðam lind-plegan
swæse ge-síðas,

4058 I believe with Mr. Thorpe that something has been lost after this line. It is clear from the numbering, that the remainder of Canto XXVIII, the whole of XXIX, and the opening of XXX have perished.

4060 þeódne. 4072 for-læddon.

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ond hyra sylfra feorh :
þonne cwiðð æt beore
se þe beáh ge-syhð [175]
eald æsc-wíga
4080 se þe eall ge-[món]
gâr-cwealm gumena,
him beóð grim-sefa
on-ginneð geomor-mód
geón[gne] cempan,
þurh hreðra ge-hygd,
[higes] cunnian,
wig-bealu weccean,
and þ wo[rd] á-cwyð :
meaht ðú mín wine
4090 mece ge-cnáwan
þone þín fæder
tó ge[feohte] bær
under here-gríman,
hindeman síðe,
dýre íren,
þær hyne Dene slógon,
weóldon wæl-stówe
syððan Wiðer-gyld læg,
æfter hæleþa hrý[re]
4100 hwáte Scyldungas :
nú her ðára ban[ena]
byre nát hwylces
frætwū hrémig
on flet gæð,
morþres gylp[eð],

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and þone máðþū byreð
þone þe þú m[id] rihte
rædan sceoldest:
manað sw[á] and myndgað
4110 mæla ge-hwylce
sárum wordum,
oððæt sæl cymeð
þ se fæmnan þegn,
fore fæder dædum,
æft billes bíte
blód-fág swefeð,
ealdres scyldig;
him se óðer þonan
losað [wígen]de, [175b.]
4120 con him land geare;
þonne bióð [á]-brocene
on bá healfe
áð-sweord eorla;
[syþ]ðan Ingelde
wealla ð wæl-níðas,
and hī [wíf]-lufan
æfter cear-weolmum
cólran [weor]ðað.
Ðý ic Heaþo-bearna
4130 hyldo ne [tel]ge,
dryht-sibbe dæl,
Denū un-fæcne,
[fr]eónd-scipe fæstne.
Ic sceal forð-sprecan
gen ymbe Grendel,

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þ ðú geare [cun]ne,
sinces brytta,
tó hwan syððan [w]earð
hond-ræs hæleþa :
4140 syððan heofones [g]im
glád ofer grundas,
gæst yrre cwom,
[á]tol æfen-grom,
úser neósan,
ðær we ge-sunde
sæl weardodon :
4147 þær wæs hond-sció
hilde on sæge,
feorh-bealu fægum ;
4150 [se þe] fyrmest læg
gyrded cempa,
him Grendel wearð,
mærū magū,
þegne tó múð-bonan ;
leófes mannes
lîc eall for-swealg :
nó ðý ær út ðá gen
ídel-hende
bona blódig-tóð,
4160 bealewa ge-myndig,
of ðā gold-sele
gongan wolde,

4146 sele. 4148 on-sæged. T.
4153 magu-þegne
tó múð-bonan.

ac he mægnes rôf
mín costode,
grápode geara-folm, [176]
glóf [hangode]
síd and syl-líc
4168 searo-bendū fæst,
[sió] wæs or-ðoncū
4170 eall ge-gyrwed
de[ófles] cræftum
and dracan fellū,
he mec [þær on] innan
un-synnigne
deór d[æd]-fruma
ge-dôn wolde,
manigra sumne,
hyt ne mihte [swá];
syððan ic on yrre
4180 upp-ri[ht] á-stód.
Tó lang is tó recenne
hú [ic ðam] leód-sceaðan
yfla ge-hwylces
hon[d-leán] for-geald,
þær ic, þeóden mín,
þíne leóde
weorþode weorcū;
he on-[weg] losade,
lytle hwíle
419 líf-wynna [breác],
hwæþre him sio swíðre
swaðe [wear]dade
hand on Hiorte,

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and he heán þonan
módes geomor
mere-g[rund] ge-feóll:
me þone wæl-ræs
wine Scyldunga
fættan golde
4200 fela leánode,
manegū máðmū,
syððan mergen côm,
and we tó symble
ge-seten hæfdon;
þær wæs gidd and gleó,
gomela [Scylding], [176b.]
fela fricgende,
feorran rehte;
[hwílum] hilde-deór
4210 hearpan wynne,
g[omen]-wudu grétte,
hwílū gyd á-wræc
sóð and [sár]-líc,
hwílum syl-líc spell
rehte æfter [rih]te
rúm-heort cyning,
hwílū eft [on-g]an,
4218 eldo-ge-bunden,
gomel gúð-wiga,
4220 [geó]guðe cwiðan
hilde-strengo,
hreðer [inne] weóll,
þonn he wintrū fród
worn [ge-mu]nde.

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4168 s
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4170 e
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4 u
d
g
n
h

4180

2

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þ wæs Hróð-gáre
4255 hreówa tornost
þára þe leód-fruman
lange be-geate:
þá se ðeóden [mec]
[be] þíne lífe
healsode hreóh-mód,
4260 [þ ic] on holma ge-þring
eorl-scipe efn[de],
ealdre ge-néðde,
mærþo fremed[e],
he me méde ge-hét;
ic þá þæs wælm[es]
[þe is wíde cúð]
grimme grýre-líc[ne]
8 grund-hyrde fond;
þær unc hwíle wæs
4270 hand-ge-mǽne,
holm heolfre weóll,
and ic heafde be-cearf
in ðam s[æ-húse]
Grendeles módor,
eácnum ecgu[m];
un-sófte þonan
7 feorh oð-ferede,
næs ic fǽge þá gyt;
ac me eorla hl[eó]
4280 eft ge-sealde
máðma menigeo,
mago Healf-denes.

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XXXI.

4283 Swá se ðeód-kyning
þeáwū lyfde,
nealles ic ðā leánū
for-loren hæfde,
mægenes méde,
ac he me [máðmas] geaf, [177b.]
sunu Healf-denes
4290 on [mínne] sylfes dôm,
ðа ic þe beorn-[cy]ning
bringan wylle,
éstum ge-[gyr]wan;
gen is eall æt ðe
lissa gelong:
[ic] lyt hafo
heáfod-maga
nefne [Hy]ge-lác ðec.
Hét ðá in-beran
4300 eafor heáfod-segn,
heaþo-steápne helm,
[se]are-byrnan,
gúð-sweord geáto-líc;
[gy]d æfter wræc:
me þis hilde-sceorp
Hróð-gár sealde,
snotra fengel,
sume [w]orde hét
þ ic his érest þe
4310 eft ge-sægde;

p. 87

since is all to thee advantages proper belonging

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[c]wæð þ hyt hæfde
Hioro-gár cyning,
[l]eód Scyldunga,
lange hwíle:
nó ðý ár suna sínū
syllan wolde,
hwatū [He]oro-wearde
þeáh he him hold wære,
breóst-ge-wædu;
4320 brúc ealles well.
Hýrde ic þ þám frætwum
feówer mearas,
lungre ge-líce
last weardode,
æppel-fealuwe,
he hī ést ge-teáh
meara and máðma,
swá sceal mæg dón; [178]
nealles in-wít-net
4330 oðrū bregdon
dyrnū cræfte,
deáð re.....
hond-ge-steallan;
Hyge-láce wæs
n[íþes] heardū
nefa swyðe hold,
and ge-hw[æþer] óðrum
hroþra ge-myndig.

4324 weardodon. 4330 bregdan.

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Hýrde ic ꝑ he þone heals-beáh
4340 hygde ..... sealde
wræt-lícne wundur-m[áðm]
ðone ðe him Wealh-þeó geaf,
ðeód[nes] dohtor;
þrio wicg somod
swancor and sadol-beorhte,
hyre syððan wæs
[æfter] beáh-ðege
brost ge-weorðod.
Swá b[e-al]dode
4350 bearn Ecg-ðeówes,
guma gú[ðum] cúð,
gódū dædū;
dreáh æfter dóme,
nealles druncne slóg.
heorð-ge-neátas;
nǽs him hreóh sefa,
ac he ma[n]-cynnes
mæste cræfte,
gin-fæsta[n] gife
4360 þe him god sealde,
heóld hilde-deór;
heán wæs lange
swá hyne Geáta bearn
gódne ne tealdon,
ne hyne on medo-bence,
micles wyrðne,
[dri]hten wereda [178b.]
ge-dón wolde:

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swýðe ..... don
4370 þ he sleác wære
æðeling [un-fr]om,
ed-wendan cwom
tyr-eádigu [me]nn
torna ge-hwylces.
Hét ðá eorla [h]leó
in-ge-fetian,
heaðo-róf cyning,
[Hre]ðles láfe
golde ge-gyrede;
4380 næs mid Geatū ðá
sinc-máþðū selra
[on] sweordes hád;
þ he on Bió-wulfes
[be]arm á-legde,
and hī ge-sealde
[se]ofon þusendo,
bold and brego-stôl:
hī wæs [b]ám samod
on ðam leód-scipe
4390 [l]ónd ge-cynde,
eard-éðel riht
óðrum [s]wíðor,
síde ríce
þā ðær selra wæs.
[Æ]ft þ ge-ióde
ufaran dogrū
hilde-hlemmū,
syððan Hyge-lác læg,

and Hearede
4400 hilde-meceas,
under bord-hreóðan,
tó bonan wurdon;
ðá hyne ge-sóhton
on síge-þeóde
5 hearde hilde-frecan, p 89
heaðo-Scylfingas,
níða ge-nægdan,
nefan Here-ríces:
syððan Beó-wulf [179]
4410 bræde ríce
on hand [ge-hwearf];
he ge-heóld tela,
fiftig wintru
wæs fród cyning,
eald éþel-weard;
oððæt ón on-gan
deorcū nihtū
draca [ricsian],
seðe on heá[pe]
4420 hord be-weót[ode],
stán-beorh stearne p 90
stíg under læg,
eldum un-cuð:
þær on innan geóng
nið[a] nát hwylc,
No translation till l. 4458 ..... ge-þing

4409 Beówulfe.

* This part of the MS. is so ruined that only a word here and there can be guessed at.

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hæðnū ho[rd]-hond,
..... hwylc
since fáhne,
4430 he þ syððan
..... þ ... ð
slæpende....
fyrena hirde
þeófes cræfte
þ si .... ðeód....
..... folc-beorn
þ he ge-bolge wæs.

XXXII.

Nealles mid ge-weoldum
wyrm-horda cræft
4440 sylfes willū
se ðe hī [fæ]re [ge]-sceód
2 ac for þreá-nedlan,
þegn nát-hwylces
hæleþa bearna
5 hete-sweng [ge]-fleoh;
.... þearfe ....
and ðær-inne weal..
secg syn-leásig
9 sona in-watide,
4450 þ .... ðam gyste
..... bróga stód
hwæ[þre] .. earm-sceapen
.....
..... [179b.]
..... sceapen

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.... se fǽs be-geat
sinc-fæt .....
4450 þær wæs swylcra fela,
in ðam eorð[-scræfe],
4460 ǽr-gestreóna,
swá hý on gear-dag[um]
gumena nát-hwylc
eormen-láfe
[æ]þelan cynnes,
þanc hycgende,
þær ge-[hy]dde,
deóre máðmas;
ealle híe deáð [f]or-nam
ǽrran mælū,
4470 and si án ðá gen
[....] da dúguðe
se ðær lengest hwearf,
eard-wine geomor
rihde þæs yldan
[....] he lytel fæc
long ge-streóna
brúcan móste;
beorh eal-gearo
wunode on wonge,
4480 [wæt]er-ýðū neáh,
niwe be næsse,
nearo-cræftū fæst;

4471 [leó]da. T. 4475 [þæt] T.
4476 leng. T.

þær on innon bær
eorl-ge-streóna
hringa hyrde,
hard-fyrdne [d]æl
fættan goldes:
fec worda cwæð
hald þú nú hrúse
4490 nú hæleð ne mæstun
eorla æhte;
hwæt hit ær on þe
góde be-geaton,
gúð-deáð for-nam
feorh-bealo frecne
fyrena ge-hwylcne,
leóda mínra,
þa ná ðe ðis of-geaf;
ge-sawon sele-dreám,
4500 .... hwá sweord-wege [180]
oððe f... fæted wǽge,
drync-fæt deóre,
dúguðe ellor-seóc,
sceal se hearda helm
hyrsted golde,
fætū be-feallan;
feorm [end] swefað.
þá ðe beado-gríman
bywan sceoldon;
4510 ge-swylce seo here-pâd,

4486 fýr-hardne. 4488 feá. 4490 móston.

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[seó] æt hilde ge-bâd
ofer borda ge-bræc
[láð]-bíte írena,
brósnað æfter beorne;
ne mæg byrnan hring
æfter w[íg-fruman]
wíde feran,
hæleðum be healfe;
næs hearpan wyn,
4520 gomen gleó-beámes,
ne gôd hafoc
geond sæl swingeð,
ne se swifta mearh
burh-stede beáteð,
be[alo]-cwealm hafað
fela feorh-cynna
[feorð] on-sended.
Swá giomor-mód
gioliðo mǽnde,
4530 án æfter eallū
un-blíðe hweóp,
dæges and nihtes
oððæt deáðes wylm
hr[án] æt heortan.
Hord-wynne fond
ēald uht-sceaða
opene standan,
se ðe byrnende
biorgas séceð,
4540 nacod níð-draca

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niht[es] fleógeð
fýre be-fangen,
hyne fold-búende
..... [180b.]
.....
4546 ..... hrúsan
þær he hæðen gold
warað wintrum fród,
né bið him wihte ðe [sél]:
4550 [þ]á se ðeód-sceaða
þreo hund wintra
[h]eóld on hrúsam
hord-ærna sū,
eácen [cr]æftig,
oððæt hyne ân á-bealch
mon on móde:
man-dryhtne bær
fæted wǽge,
frioðo-wære bæd
4560 hláford sínne,
[w]æs hord rasod
on-boren beága hord,
béne ge-tiðad
fea-sceaftu men.
Freá sceawode
fira fyrn-ge-weorc
[f]orman síðe;

4552 hrúsan. 4561 reáfod. T.
4562 oð-broden. T. oð-boren. K.

Digitized by Google

4569 þá se wyrm on-wôc
wroht wæs ge-niwad,
4570 stonc ðá æfter stáne,
stearc-heort on-fand
feóndes fót-[l]ast;
he tó forð ge-stóp
dyrnan cræfte
dracan heáfde neáh;
swá mæg un-fége
eáðe ge-dígan
wean and wræc-síð,
se ðe waldendes
4580 hyldo ge-healdeþ.
Hord-weard sóhte
georne æfter grunde,
wolde guman findan
þone þe hī on sweofote
sáre ge-teóde;
hát and hreóh-mód
hlæwū eft ymbe-hwearf [181]
ealne [útan]-weardne
ne þær ænig mon
4590 on .... westenne,
hwæðre hilde ge-féh,
be[adu]-weorces hwílū
on beorh æt-hw[earf]

4588 hlæw. 4590 [þǽre] T.

4591 At least two lines wanting, of which the first might be [wuniendne fand:]

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sinc-fæt sóhte,
he þ sona on-f[and],
ðæt hæfde gumena sū
goldes ge-fandod,
8 heáh-ge-streóna.
Hord-weard on-bâd
4600 earfoð-líce
oððæt æfen [cwom];
wæs ðá ge-bolgen
beorges hyrde,
wolde fela ðá
lige for-gyldan,
drinc-fæt dýre.
Ðá wæs dæg sceacen
wy[r]me on willan,
nó on wealle læg
4610 [ne bí]dan wolde,
ac mid bæle fôr,
fýre ge-fýsed;
was se fruma eges-líc
leódū on lande,
swá hyt lungre wearð
on hyra sinc-gifan
sáre ge-endod.

XXXIII.

Hbl. 8 Ðá se gæst on-gan
glédū spíwan,

4609 leng. T.

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4620 beorht hofu bærnan,
bryne-leóma stód
eldum on andan;
nó ð[ær] áht cwíces.
láð lyft-floga
læfan [wol]de: [181b.]
wæs þæs wyrmes wíg
wíde ge-sý[ne],
[se]aro-fáges níð
neán and feorran,
4630 hú[s]e gúð-sceaða
Geáta leóde
hatode and hýn[de]:
hord eft ge-sceat,
dryht-sele dyrn[ne],
ær dæges hwíle.
Hæfde land-wara
[li]ge be-fangen,
bále and bronde;
beorges ge-trúwode
4640 wíges and wealles,
hī seó wén ge-leáh.
Ðá wæs Bió-wulfe
bróga ge-cý[ð]ed
snúde tó sóðe,
þ his sylfes him,
bolda sélest,
bryne-wylmū mealt,

4645 hám.

gif-stól Geáta:
þ ðā gódan wæs
4650 hreów [o]n hreðre,
hyge-sorga mǽst;
wénde [s]e wísa
þ he wealdende,
ofer ealde [ri]ht,
écean dryhtne
bitre ge-bulge;
[b]reóst innan weóll
þeóstrū ge-þoncum,
swá hī ge-þywe ne wæs.
4660 Hæfde lig-draca
leóda fæsten,
zealond utan,
3 eorð-weard ðone,
glédū for-grunden:
hī ðæs gúð-kyning,
Wedera þióden,
wræce leornode.
Héht hī þá ge-wyrcean
wígendra hleó
4670 eall írenne,
eorla dryhten,
wíg-bord wræt-líc:
wisse he gearwe [182]
4 þ hī holt-wudu
he[lpan] ne meahte,
lind wiðð lige;
sceólde þend daga

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æþeling ær-gôd
ende [ge]-bídan
4680 worulde lífes,
and se wyrm somod,
2 þeáh ðe hord-welan
heólde lan[ge].
4 Ofer-hogode ðá
hringa fengel
þ he þone wîd-flogan
weorode ge-sóhte,
sídan herge,
nó he hī þā sæcce on-dred;
4690 né him þæs wyrmes wíg
for wiht dyde,
eafoð and ellen;
for ðon he ær fela
nearo-néðende
5 níða ge-díg[de],
hilde-hlemma,
syððan he Hróð-gár[es],
sigor-eádig secg,
9 sele fælsode,
4700 and æt g[úðe] for-gráp
Grendeles mægu
láðan cynnes:
3 nó þæt lésest wæs
hond-ge-[móta]
þær mon Hyge-lác slóh;
syððan Geáta cyning
gúðe-ræsum

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freá-wine folces,
Fres-londum on,
4710 Hreðles eafora
hioro-dryncum swealt,
bille ge-beát[en];
þonan Bió-wulf com
sylfes cræfte,
sund-nytte dreáh;
hæfde hī on earme
.....xxx. [182b.]
hilde-geátwa
þá he to holme [stá]g;
4720 nealles het-ware
hrém ge-þorft[on]
feðe wíges,
þe hī foran on-gean
linde bæron:
lyt eft be-cwom
frā þā hild-fræcan,
hámes niósan:
ofer-swam ðá
sióleða bi-gong
4730 sunu Ecg-ðeówes,
[ea]rm án-haga,
eft tó leódū,
þær him hygd ge-beád

4716 Note. This, though standing in the MS. has no sense or meaning, and should certainly be expunged.
4723 fóron. 4726 h-frecan.

hord and ríce,
beágas and brego-[s]tól;
bearne ne trúwode,
þ he wiþ æl-fylcū
eþel-stólas
healdan cúðe,
4740 ðá wæs Hyge-lác deád.
Nó ðý ár feá-sceafte
findan meahton
æt ðā æðelinge
[æ]nige ðinga,
þ he Heardrede
hláf-ord [w]áre,
oððe þone cyne-dôm
ciósan wol[d]e;
hwæðre he hī on folce
4750 freónd-lárū heóld,
éstū mid áre
oððæt he yldra wearð,
Weder-Geátū weóld.
Hyne wræc-mæcgas
ofer sæ sóhtan,
suna Oht-eres;
hæfdon hý for-healden
helm Scylfinga,
þone sélestan
4760 sæ-cyninga
þára ðe ðe in Swío-ríce

4755 sóhton. 4761 *del.* the second ðe.

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sinc brytnade,
mærne þeóden; [183]
hī þ tó mearce wearð:
he [þær] or-feorme
feorh-wunde hleát,
[sweor]des swengum,
sunu Hyge-láces,
and [him] eft ge-wát
4770 Ongen-ðióes bearn
há[mes] niósan,
syððan Heardred læg;
let ðone brego-stól
Bió-wulf healdan,
Geátū wealdan;
þ wæs gód cyning.

XXXIIII.

Se ðæs leód-hrýres
leán ge-munde
uferan dógrū,
4780 Ead-gilse wearð
feá-sceaftū freónd;
folce ge-stépte
ofe[r] sæ síde
sunu Oht-eres
wígū and wæpnū.
he ge-wræc syððan
cealdū cear-síðum,

4764 wearð.

cyning ealdre bi-neát.
Swá he níðra ge-hwane
4790 ge-nesen hæfde,
slíðra ge-slyh[ta],
sunu Ecg-ðiówes.
ellen-weorca,
oð ðone ánne dæg
þe he wið þā wyrme
ge-wegan sceolde.
Ge-wát þá .XII.a sū
torne ge-bolgen,
dryhten Geáta,
4800 dracan sceawia[n];
hæfde þá ge-frunen
hwanan sió fæhð á-rás,
bealo-níð biorna:
hī to bearme [cwom] [183b.]
máðþū-fæt mære
þurh ðæs m[elda]n hond,
se wæs on ðā ðreáte
þreotteo[ða] secg,
se ðæs or-leges
4810 or on-stealde,
hæft [hy]ge-giómor,
sceólde heán ðonon
wong [w]isian;
he ofer willan gióng
tó ðæs ðe he eorð-sele
ánne wisse,
hláw under [h]rúsan,

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holm-wylme néh,
ýð-ge-winne;
4820 se wæs innan full
wrætta and wira;
weard un-hióre,
gearo gúð-freca,
gold-máðmas heóld,
eald under eorðan:
næs ý ýðe ceáp
tó ge-gangenne
gumena ænigū.
Ge-sæt ðá on næsse
4830 níð-heard cyning,
þenden hélo á-beád
heorð-ge-neátū,
gold-[w]ine Geáta,
him wæs geómor sefa,
wæfre and wæl-fús,
wyrd un-ge-mete neáh,
se ðone gomelan
grétan sceolde,
sécean sáwle-hord,
4840 sundur ge-dælan
líf wið líce;
no þon lange wæs
feorh æþelinges
flæsce be-wunden.
Bió-wulf maþeláde
bearn Ecg-ðeówes:
fela ic on giógoðe

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4845 gúð-ræsa ge-næs,
ór-leg-hwíla;
4850 ic þ eall ge-mon:
ic wæs syfan-wintre [184]
þá mec sin[ca bal]dor,
freá-wine folca,
æt mínu fæd[ere] ge-nam;
heóld mec and hæfde
Hreðel cyn[ing],
geaf me sinc and symbel,
sibbe ge-mund[e];
næs ic hī tó lífe
4860 láðra ó-wihte,
beorn [in] burgū,
þoñ his bearna hwylc,
Here-be[ald], and Hæð-cyn,
oððe Hyge-lác mín.
Wæs þám yldestan
un-ge-défe-líce,
mæges dædū,
morþor-bed stred,
syððan hyne Hæð-cyn
4870 of horn-bogan,
his freá-wine,
fláne ge-swencte,
miste mercelses,
and his mæg o[f]-scét,
bróðor óðerne,
blódigan gáre;
þ w[æs] feoh-leás ge-feoht,

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fyrenū ge-syngad :
Hreð[el] hyge-méðe.
4880 Sceólde hwæðre swá þeáh
æðeling un-wrecen
ealdres linnan,
swá bið geómor-lic
gomelū ceorle
tó ge-bídanne
þ his byre ríde
gióng on galgan :
þoñ he gyd wrece,
sárigne sang,
4890 þoñ his sunu hangað
hrefne to hróre,*
and he hī helpan ne mæg,
eald and in-fród
ænige ge-fremman :
symble bīð ge-myndgad
morna ge-hwylce
[eafor]an ellor-síð : [184b.]
óðres ne gýmeð
tó ge-bídanne
4900 burgū in innan
yrfe-weardas,
þoñ se án hafað
þurh deáðes nýd
dæda ge-fondad :

* A coeval hand has added a ð, thus making the word "hroðre."

4892 helpe. 4901 yrfe-weardes. T.

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ge-syhð sorh-cearig
on his suna búre
wín-sele westne,
wind-ge-reste,
reóte be-rófene;
rídend swefað,
hæleð in hoðman;
nis þær hearpan swég,
gomen in geardū,
swylce ðær iú wæron.

XXXV.

Ge-wíteð þoñ on sealman,
sorh-leóð gæleð
án æfter ánū:
þúhte him eall tó rū
wongas and wíc-stede.
Swá Wedra helm
æfter Here-bealde
heortan sorge
weallende wæg,
wihte ne meahte
on ðám feorh-bonan
fæghðe ge-bétan;
nó ðý ær he þone heaðo-rinc
hatian ne meahte,
láðum dædū,
þeáh hī leóf ne wæs.

4906 ge-ræste. T. 4926 fæhðe.

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He ðá mid þére sorhge
þe hī sió sár be-lamp,
gū-dreám of-geaf,
Godes leóht ge-ceás,
eaferū læfde,
(swá déð eádig mon
lond) and leód-byrig,
þá he of lífe ge-wát.
Ðá [wæs] synn and sacu [185]
Sweóna and Geáta,
ofer [wíd] wæter
wroht ge-mǽne,
here-níð heard[ra],
syððan Hreðel swealt;
oððe hī Ongen-ðeówes
eaferan wǽran
frome fyrd-hwate,
freóde ne woldon
ofer heafo healdan,
ac ymb Hreosna-beorh
eato[lne] in-wít-scear
oft ge-fremedon:
þ m[æg] wine
míne ge-wræcan
fǽhðe and fyrene,
swá hit ge-frǽge wæs,

4931 sorge. 4932 þá. T.
4946 wǽron. 4951 átolne.
4 53 The MS. reads incorrectly, oft ge ge-fremedon.

þeáh ðe óðer
his ealdre ge-bóhte,
heardan ceápe;
4960 Hæð-cynne wearð,
Geáta dryhtne
gúð on sæg[e]:
þá ic on morgne ge-frægn
mæg óðerne
billes ecgū
on bonan stælan:
þær Ongen-þeów
Eofores niósað;
gúð-helm tó-glád:
4970 gomela Scylfing
hreás blác,
hond ge-munde
fæhðo ge-noge,
feorh-sweng ne of-teáh:
ic hī þa máðmas
þe he me sealde
geald æt gúðe,
swá me gifeðe wæs,
leóhtan sweorde;
4980 he me lond for-geaf,
eard éðel-wy[n]:
næs him ænig þearf
þ he tó Gifðū,
oððe tó Gár-denū,
oððe in Swio-ríce,
sécean þurfe

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[wyrs]an wig-frecan, [185b.]
weorðe ge-cýpa[n].
[Swylce] ic hī on feðan
4990 be-foran wolde,
ána on orde,
and swá tó aldre sceall
sæcce fremman,
þenden þis sweord þólað
þ mec ær and síð
oft ge-láste,
syððan ic for dúgeðū
dæg-hrefne wearð
tó hand-bonan
5000 Huga [ce]mpan:
nalles he ða frætwe
Fres-cyning[e],
breóst-weorðunge
bringan móste,
ac in cempan ge-crong
cumbles hyrde,
æþeling on elne.
Né wæs ecg bona,
ac hī hilde gráp
5010 heortan wylmas,
bán-hús ge-bræc.
Nú sceall billes ecg,
hond and heard sweord,
ymb hord wígan.

4998 dæg-hræfne. 5005 in compe.
5009 Ic him. T.

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Beó-wulf maðelode
beót-wordū spræc
niehstan síðe:
ic ge-néðde fela
gúða on geógoðe,
5020 gyt ic wylle,
fród folces weard,
fæhðe sécan,
mærðū fremman,
gif mec se mân-sceaða
of eorð-sele
út ge-séceð.
Ge-grétte ðá
gumena ge-hwylcne,
hwate helm-berend,
5030 hindeman síðe,
swése ge-síðas.
Nolde ic sweord beran,
wæpen tó wyrme,
gif ic wiste hú [186]
wið ðám ág-læcean
elles meahte
gylpe wið-grípan
swá ic gió wið
Grendle dyde;
5040 ac ic ðær heaðu-fýres
háte[s] wéne,
reðes and hattres;
for-ðon ic me on hafu
bord and byrnan:

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5045 nelle ic beorges weard
ofer-fleón
fôtes trem
ac unc sce[all] weorðan æt wealle
swá unc wyrd ge-teóð,
5050 metod manna ge-hwæs:
ic eom on móde from
þ ic wið þone gúð-flogan
gylp of[er]-sitte;
ge-bíde ge on beorge
byrnū werede,
secgas on searwū,
hwæðer sél mæge
æft wæl-ræse
wunde ge-dýgan,
5060 uncer twega.
Nis þæt eówer síð,
né ge-met-mannes,
ne[fne] mín ánes,
wat he wið ág-lǽcean
eofoðo dǽle,
eorl-scype efne:
ic mid elne sceall
gold ge-gangan,
oððe gúð nimeð,
5070 feorh-bealu frecne,
freán eówerne.

5047 tremmum. The whole passage is very corrupt.
5050 twegra.
5064 þæt.
5065 earfoðe.

A'-rás ðá bi ronde
róf oretta,
heard under helme,
hioro-sercean bær
under stán-cleofu;
strengo ge-trúwoðe
ánes mannes;
ne bið swylc earges síð.
Ge-seah ðá be wealle
(se ðe worna fela, [186b.]
gū-cystū gôd,
gúða ge-dígde,
hilde-hlemma
þoñ hnitan feðan,)
stódan stán-bogan,
streā út þonan
brecan of beorge;
wæs þére burnan wælm
heaðo-fýrū hát,
ne meahte horde neáh
un-byrnende,
ænige hwíle
deóp ge-dýgan,
for dracan lege.
Let ðá of breóstū,
ðá he ge-bolgen wæs,
Weder-Geáta leód
word út faran:

5066 hniton. 5066 stódon.
5092 un-birnende. 5094 gedígan.

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5100 stearc-heort styrmde,
stefn in be-com
2 heaðo-torht hlynnan
under hârne stân:
hete wæs on-hréred,
hord-weard on-cniów
mannes reorde;
næs ðær mára fyrst
freóde to friclan,
frō ærest cwom
5110 oraðð ág-læcean
út of stâne,
hât hilde-swât:
hrúse dynede,
biorn under beorge
5 bord-rand on-swâf
6 wiðð ðám grýre-gieste
Geáta dryhten.
Ðá wæs hring-bogan
heorte ge-fýsed
5120 sæcce tó séceanne:
sweord ær ge-bræd
gód gúð-cyning,
3 gomele láfe,
ecgu un-gleáw:
ég-hwæðrū wæs
6 bealo-hycgendra
[bró]ga frā óðrū: [187]
stiðð-mód ge-stód
wiðð steápne rond

5130 winia bealdor;
ðá se wyrm ge-beáh
snúde tó somne
he on searwum bâd:
ge-wát ðá byrnende
ge-bogen scríða[n]
to ḡ-scipe scyndan;
scyld wel ge-bearg
[líf] and líce
læssan hwíle
5140 mærū þeódne his o[illegible] sought
þon[ne] his myne sóhte, p 104
ðær he þý fyrste,
forman dógore,
wealdan móste,
swá him wyrd ne ge-scráf
hreð æt hilde.
Hond ú[p] á-bræd
Geáta dryhten,
grýre-fáhne sló[h]
5150 incge láfe,
þ sió ecg ge-wâc
brún on bâne,
bát un-swíðor,
þon his ðiód-cyning
þear[fe] hæfde,
bysigū ge-bæded. p 104
Ðá wæs beorges weard
æfter heaðu-swenge
on hreóum móde,

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5160 wearp wæl-fýre,
wíde sprungon
hilde-leóman :
3 hreð sígora ne gealp
gold-wine Geáta,
gúð-bill ge-swâc
nacod æt níðe- - - —
swá hyt nó sceolde
íren ær-gôd,
(ne wæs þ éðe síð.)
5170 þ se mæra
maga Ecg-ðeówes
grund-wong þone
of-gyfan wolde,
sceólde willan
wíc eardian
6 elles-hwergen ; p 104
swá sceal æg-hwylc mon [167b.]
8 á-lætan læn-dag[as]. p 104
Næs ðá long tó ðon
5180 þ ða ág-læcean
hý eft ge-métton ;
hyrte hyne hord-weard,
hreðer æðme weóll
níwan stefne ;
nearo [þr]ówode
fýre be-fongen
se ðe ær folce weóld :
nealles hī on heápe

5167 hit. 5173 ofgifan.

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heand-ge-steallan,
5190 æðelinga bearn,
ymbe-ge-stódon,
hilde-cystū;
ac hý on holt bugon
ealdre burgan:
hiora in ánū weóll
sefa wiðð sorgū;
sibb æfre ne mæg
wiht on-wendan
þā ðe wel þenceð.

XXXVI.

5200 Wig-láf wæs háten
Weox-stánes sunu,
leóf-líc lind-wíga,
leód Scylfinga,
mæg Ælf-heres:
ge-seah his mon-dryhten
under here-gríman
hát þrówian:
ge-múnde ðá ða áre
þe he him ær for-geaf,
5210 wîc-stede weligne
Wæg-mundinga,
folc-rihta ge-hwylc
swá his fæder áhte.
Ne mihte ðá for-habban,
hond-rond ge-feng,

5201 hand-g.

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5216 geolwe linde,
gomel-swyrd ge-teáh,
þæt wæs mid eldum
Ean-mundes láf
5220 suna Oht-ere [188]
þā æt sæcce wearð
(wr[æc] wine-leásū)
Weoh-stánes bana
meces ecg[um],
and his magū æt-bær
6 brún-fágne helm, p 106
hringde byrnan,
eald sweord etonisc
þ hī Onela for-geaf,
5230 his gædelinges
gúð-ge-wædu,
fyrd-searo fús-líc;
nó ymbe ða fæhðe spræc
þeáh ðe he his bróðor bearn
á-bredwade:
he frætwe ge-heóld
fela missera,
bill and byrnan,
oððæt his byre mihte
5240 eorl-scipe efnan
swá his ær-fæder.
Geaf hī ðá mid Geátū
gúð-ge-wæda
ǽg-hwæs un-rím,

5220 Ohteres. 5225 Weoh-stán bana.

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þá he of ealdre ge-wát
fród on forð-weg:
þ[æt] wæs forma síð
geóngan cempan
þ[æt] he gúðe-ræs
5250 mid his freó-ðryhtne
fremman sceólde:
ne ge-mealt hī se mód-sefa,
né his mægenes láf
ge-wác æt wíge,
þa se wyrm on-fand
syððan híe tó-gædre
ge-gán hæfdon.
Wig-lâf maðelode
word-rihta fela,
5260 sægde ge-síðū,
hī wæs sefa geómor:
ic ðæt [eall] ge-man [108b.]
þær we medu þegun,
þon[ne] we ge-héton
ússu hláf-orde
in biór-sele,
ðe ús ðas beágas geaf,
þ we hī ða gúð-getawa
gyldan woldon,
5270 gif hī þys-lícu
þearf ḡ-lūpe,
helmas and heard sweord;
ðe he úsic on herge ge-ceás

5263 þegon.

tó ðyssū síð-fate
sylfes willū,
on-múnde úsic mærða,
and me þas máðmas geaf,
þe he úsic gâr-wígend
góde tealde,
5280 hwate helm-berend:
þeáh ðe hláf-ord ús
þis ellen-weorc
ána á-ðohte
tó ge-fremmanne,
folces hyrde,
for-ðā he manna mæst
mærða ge-fremede,
dæda dol-lícra:
nú is se dæg cumen
5290 þ úre man-dryhten
mægenes be-hófað
gódra gúð-rinca:
wutun gangan tó
helpan hild-fruman,
þenden hit sý
gled-egesa grim.
God wát on mec
þ me is micle leófre
þ mínne líc-haman
5300 mid mínne gold-gyfan
gled fæðmie:

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5274 síð-fæte. 5300 mínum. g-gifan.

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5302 ne þynceð me ge-rýsne
þ we rondas beren
eft to earde,
nemme we ǽr mægen
fâne ge-fyllan,
feorh ealgian [197]
Wedra ðeódnes.
Ic wát gear[e]
5310 þ næron eald ge-wyrht,
þ he ána scylē
Ge[áta] dúguðe
gnorn þrówian,
ge-sígan æt sæcce:
úru sceal sweord and helm,
byrne and byrdu scrúd,
[beón] ge-mǽnē.
Wód þá þurh þone wæl-rǽc,
wig-h[ea]folan bær
5320 freán on fultū;
feá worda c[wæð]:
leófa Bió-wulf
læst eall tela
swá ðú on g[eó]guð-feore
geara ge-twæde,
þ ðú ne á-læte
be ðe lífigendū
dóm ge-dreósan:
scealt nú dǽdū róf,

5302 gerísene. 5310 ge-riht.
5318 réc. 5325 ge-cwæde.

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5330 æðeling án-hydig,
ealle mægene
feorh ealgian,
ic ðe ful-læstu.
Æfter ðám wordū
wyrm yrre cwom,
6 átol in-wít-g[æst], p 108
óðre síðe,
8 fýr-wylmū fáh,
hōnda nīð[san],
5340 láðra manna:
1 lig-ýðū for-born
bord w[ið] rond,
byrne ne meahte
geóngū gár-wígan
geóce ge-fremman;
ac se maga geónga
und[er] his mæges scyld
elne ge-eóde,
þá his ágen [wæs]
5350 gledū for-grunden.
Ðá-gen gúð-cyning
[mærða] ge-múnde,
3 mægen-strengo,
slōh hilde-bille
[þ] hyt on heafolan stôd
níþe ge-nýded,
5357 Nægling for-bærst, p 108
ge-swâc æt sæcce

5341 for-barn. 5342 ronde.

sweord Bió-wulfes,
5360 gomol and græg-mél; [197b.]
hī þ gifeðe ne wæs
[þ] hī írenna
ecge mihton
helpan æt hilde;
wæs sió hond tó strong
se ðe meca ge-hwane,
míne ge-fræge,
swenge ofer-sóhte
þoñ he tó sæcce bær
5370 wæpen wundū heard;
næs him wihte ðe sél.
Ðá wæs þeód-sceaða
þriddan síðe,
frecne fyr-draca,
fæhða ge-mýndig;
ræsde on ðone rófan
þá hī rū á-geald,
hát and heaðo-grim
heals ealne ymbe-feng
5380 biteran banu,
he ge-blódegod wearð
sáwul-drióre,
swát ýðū weóll.

XXXVII.

þá ic æt þearfe
þeód-cyninges

5362 írenne. 5363 ecga.
5384 insert, ge-frægn.

and-longne eorl
ellen cýðan,
cræft and cénðu,
swá him ge-cynde wæs:
ne hédde he þæs heafolan,
ac sió hand ge-barn
módiges mannes,
þær he his mægenes healpé;
þ he þone níð-gæst
nioðor-hwéne slóh,
secg on searwū,
þ ðæt sweord ge-deáf
fáh and fæted;
þ ðæt fŷr on-gon
sweðrian syððan;
þá-gen sylf cyning
ge-weóld his ge-witte,
wæl-seaxe ge-bræd,
biter and beadu-scearp
þ he on byrnan wæg:
for-wrát Wedra helm [189]
wyrm on middan
feónd ge-fyldan
ferh-ellen wræc,
and hí hyne þa bégen
á-broten hæfdon
sib-æðelingas,
(swylc sceólde secg wesan
þegn æt ðearfe,)

5393 mæges. 5394 þá.

þ ðā þeódne wæs
síðas síge-hwíle
sylfes dǽdū
woru[lde]-ge-weorces,
ðá sió wund on-gon
5420 þe hī se e[orð]-draca
ǽr ge-worhte
swelan and swellan:
[he] þ sona on-fand
þ hī on breóstū
beal[o-níð] weóll,
attor on innan:
ðá se æðeling gióng
þ he bi wealle
wís-hycgende
5430 ge-sæt on sesse;
seah on enta ge-weorc
hú ða stán-bogan,
stapulū fæste,
éce eorð-reced
innan healde.
Hyne þá mid handa
heoro-dreórigne
þ[eó]den mǽrne,
þegn un-ge-mete tíll,
5440 wine-dryht[en] his
wætere ge-lafede,
hilde-sædne,
and his hé[lo] on-speón.

5416 síðes síge-hwíl. 5428 be.

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Bió-wulf maþelode,
5445 he ofer b[enne] spræc,
wunde wæl-bleáte;
wisse he gearwe
8 þ he dæg-hwíla
ḡ-drogen hæfde,
5450 eorðan wyn[ne];
ðá wæs eall sceacen
dógor-ge-rímes,
deáð un-ge-mete neáh:
nú ic suna mínū
syllan wolde
gúð-ge-wædu,
þær me gifeðe swá
ænig yrfe-weard [189b.]
æfter wurde,
5460 líce ge-lenge.
Ic ðas leóde heóld
fiftig wintra;
næs se folc-cyning
ymbe-sittendra
ænig ðára
ðe mec gúð-winu
[g]rétan dorste,
egesan ðeón:
ic on earde bâd
5470 [m]æl-ge-sceafta,
heóld mín tela,
ne sóhte searo-níðas,
ne me swór fela

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áðа on ún-riht.
Ic ðæs ealles mæg
feorh-bennū seóc,
ge-feán habban,
forðā me wítan ne ðearf
waldend fira
5480 morðor-bealo maga,
þonne mín sceaceð
líf of líce.
Nú ðú lungre geong
hord sceáwian
under hárne stán,
Wig-láf leófa,
nú se wyrm ligeð
swefeð sáre wund,
since be-reáfod:
5490 bió nú on ófoste
þ ic ér-welan,
gold-æht on-gite,
gearo sceáwige
swegle searo-gīmas,
þ ic ðý séft mæge
æfter máððū-welan
[mí]n á-lætan
líf and leód-scipe
þone ic longe heóld.

XXXVIII.

5500 Þá ic snúde ge-frægn
sunu Wih-stánes,

5483 gang.

æft word-cwydū,
wundū dryhtne
hýran heaðo-siócū,
hring-net beran,
brogdne beadu-sercean,
under beorges hróf.
Ge-seah ðá sige-hreðig
þá he bi sesse geóng,
mag-þegn módig, [190]
máððu-sigla fealo,
gold glitmian
grunde ge-tenge,
wundur on wealle,
and þæs wyrmes denn,
ealdes uht-flogan,
orcas stondan
fyrn-manna fatu,
feormend-leáse,
hyrstū be-hrórene:
þær wæs helm monig
eald and ómig,
earm-beága fela
searwū ge-sæled:
(sinc eáðe mæg,
gold on gr[unde],
gū-cynnes ge-hwone
ofer-higian,
hyde se ðe wylle:)
swylce he siómian ge-seah
segn eall-gylden

5509 be. 5511 fela.

heáh ofer horde,
hond-wundra mǽst,
ge-locen leóðo-cræftū,
of ðā leóman stôd
þ he þone grund-wong
on-gitan meah[te],
wræce giond wlítan.
Næs ðæs wyrmes þ[ær]
on-sýn ǽnig,
ac hyne ecg for-nā.
Ðá ic [on] hlǽwe ge-frægn
hord reáfian,
eald enta ge-weorc,
ánne mannan;
hī on bearm hlod[an]
bunan and discas,
sylfes dóme;
segn eác ge-no[m],
beácna beorhtost,
bill ǽr-ge-scod,
ecg wæs íren
eald-hláf-ordes
þā ðára máðma
mund-bora wæs
longe hwíle,
lig-egesan wæg
hátne for horde,*

5535 leóma.

* The word horde has been tampered with in the MS.

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hioro-weallende
5560 middel-nihtum,
oð þ he morðre swealt. [190b.]
Ár wæs on ófoste,
eft-síðes georn,
frætwū ge-fyrðred;
hyne fyrwet bræc,
hwæðer collen-ferð
cwicne ge-métte
in ðā wong-stede,
Wedra þeóden
5570 ellen-siócne,
þær he hine ér for-let.
He ðá mid þā máðmū
mærne þiódén,
dryhten sínne,
driórigne fand,
ealdres æt ende:
he hine eft on-gon
wæteres weorpan,
oð þ wordes ord
5580 breóst-hord þurh-bræc; p 113
gomel on giógoðe
gold sceáwode:
Ic ðára frætwa,
freán ealles ðanc
wuldur-cyninge
wordū [se]cge,
écū dryhtne,
þe ic her on starie;

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þæs ðe [ic] móste
5590 mínū leódū
ær swylt-dæge
swylc ge-[str]ýnan;
nū ic on máðma hord
mínne be-bóhte
fróde feorh-lege:
fremmað ge-ná
leóda þearfe:
ne mæg ic her leng wesan;
háta ð heaðo-mære
5600 hlæw ge-wyrcean,
beorhtne æfter bále,
æt brimes nosan;
se scel tó ge-myndū
mínū leódū
heáh hlifian
on Hrones næsse;
þ hit sæ-líðend
syððan hátan
Bió-wulfes biorh,
5610 ða ðe Brentingas
ofer flóda ge-nipu [191]
feorran drífað.
Dyde hī of healse
hring gyldenne,
þióden þrist-hydig
þegne ge-sealde,
geongū gár-wigan,

Now I have pur-chased prudently with my death a hoard of treasure

/ r 113

5593 *del* on. 5594 mínum. 5603 sceal.

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gold-fáhne helm,
beáh and byrnan,
5620 hét hyne brúcan well.
Ðú eart ende-láf
ússes cynnes,
Wǽg-mundinga;
ealle wyrd for-sweóf
míne magas
tó metod-sceafte,
eorlas on elne;
ic hī æfter sceal.
Ðæt wæs þā gomelan
5630 gingæste word,
breóst-ge-hygdū,
ær he bǽl cure,
háte heaðo-wylmas:
hī of hwæðre ge-wát
sáwol sécean
sóð-fæstra dôm.

[XXXVIIII.]

Ðá wæs ge-gongen
gumū un-fródū
earfoð-lice,
5640 þ he on eórðan ge-seah
þone leófestan
lífes æt ende
bleáte ge-bǽran;
bona swylce læg,

5630 gingeste. 5634 hréðre.

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eges-líc eorð-draca,
eald[re] be-reáfod,
bealwe ge-bæded;
beáh-hordū leng
wyrm wóh-bogen
5650 wealdan ne móste,
ac him írenna
ecga for-namon,
⁊ hearde heaðo-scearde,
homera láfe,
þ se wíd-floga
wundū stille
hreás on hrúsan
hord-ærne neáh;
nalles æfter lyfte [191b.]
5660 lácende hwearf
middel-nihtū,
máðm-æhta wlonc
⁊ an-sýn ýwde,
ac he eorðan ge-feóll
for ðæs hild-fruman
hond-ge-weorce:
huru þ on lande
lyt manna ðáh
mægen-ágendra,
5670 míne ge-fræge,
þeáh ðe he dæda ge-hwæs
dyrstig wære,
⁊ þ he wið áttor-sceaðan
oreðe ge-ræsde,

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oððe hring-sele
hondū styrede,
gif he wæccende
weard on-funde
búon on beorge.
5680 Bió-wulfe wearð
dryht-máðma dæl
deáðe for-golden:
hæfde ǽg-hwæðre
ende ge-fered
lǽnan lífes.
Næs ðá lang tó ðon
þ ða hild-latan
holt of-gefan,
tydre treów-logan
5690 tyne æt somne,
ða ne ðorston ǽr
dareðū lácan
on hyra man-dryhtnes
miclan þearfe;
ac hý scamiende
scyldas bǽran,
gúð-ge-wǽdu,
þǽr se gomela læg,
wlítan on Wi-láf:
5700 he ge-wergad sæt
feðe cempa
freán eaxlū neáh,

5679 búan. 5688 of geafon. 5691 dorston.
5696 bǽron. 5699 Wíglaf.

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wehte hyne wætre;
hī wiht ne speóp,
ne meahte he on eorðan
ðeáh he úðe wel,
on ðā frū-gáre
feorh ge-healdan,
né ðæs wealdendes
wiht on-cirran;
wolde dôm Godes [192]
dædū rædan
gumena ge-hwylcū
swá he nú gen déð.
Ðá wæs æt ðā geóngū
grī and-swar[u]
éð-be-gete
þā ðe ær his elne for-leás.
Wig-láf maðelode
Weoh-stánes sunu,
sec sárig-ferð
seah on un-leófe:
Þ lá mæg secgan
se ðe wyle sóð sprecan
Þ se mon-dryhten
se eów ða máðmas geáf,
eored-geatwe
þe ge þær on-standað,
þon he on ealu-bence
oft ge-sealde

5704 speów. 5721 secg.

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heal-sittendū
helm and byrnan,
þeóden his þegnū
swylce he þryd-lícost
ó-wer feor oððe neáh
findan meahte,
þ he genunga
gúð-ge-wædu
wraðe for-wurpe,
5740 ðá hyne wíg be-get:
nealles folc-cyning
fyrd-ge-steal[lan]
gylpan þorfte,
hwæðre hī God úðe,
sigor[a] waldend,
þ he hyne sylfne ge-wræc
ána mid ecge,
þá hī wæs elnes þearf.
Ic hī líf-wráðe
5750 lytle meahte
æt-gifan æt gúðe,
and on-gan swá þeáh
ofer mín ge-met
mæges helpan:
symle wæs þý sæmra
þoñ ic sweorde drep
ferhð-ge-níðlan,
fýran swíðor

5734 þryðlicost. 5735 ó-hwær.
5740 begeat.

weóll of ge-witte,
5760 fergendra tó lyt
þrong ymbe þeóden,
þá hyne sió þrag be-cwom. [192b]
Hú sceal sinc-þego
and swyrd-gifu,
eall éðel-wyn,
eówrū cynne
lufená-licgean:
lond-rihtes mót
þére mæg-búrge
5770 monna æg-hwylc
ídel hweorfan,
syððan æðelingas
feorran ge-fricgean
fleám eówerne,
dō-leásan dæd:
deáð bið sélla
eorla ge-hwylcū
þonne ed-wít-líf.

XL.

Héht ðá þ heaðo-weorc
5780 tó hagan biódan,
ûp ofer ecg-clif,
þær þ eorl-weorod
morgen-longne dæg
mód-giómor sæt
bord-hæbbende,

5760 wergendra. 5763 Nū. 5767 leofen. J. G.

béga ón wénū
ende dógores
and eft-cymes
leófes monnes.
5790 Lyt swígode
níwra spella
2se ðe næs ge-råd;
ac he sóð-líce
sægde ofer ealle:
nú is wil-geofa
Wedra leóda,
dryhten Geáta
deáð-bedde fæst:
wunað wæl-reste
5800 wyrmes dædū;
him on efn ligeð
ealdor-ge-winna,
siex bennū seóc;
sweorde ne meahte
on ðā ág-lǽcean
ǽnige þinga
wunde ge-wyrcean.
Wig-láf siteð
ofer Bió-wulfe,
5810 byre Wih-stánes,
eorl ofer óðrū
un-lífigendū,
3healdeð hige-mǽðum

5813 hyge-méðum.

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5814 heáfod-wearde [193]
leófes and láðes.
Nú [is leódum] wén
orleg-hwíle,
syððan under
Froncū and Frysū
5820 fyll cyninges
wíde weorðeð;
wæs sió wroht scepen
heard wið Hugas,
syððan Hige-lác cwom
faran flót-herge
on Fresn[a] land;
þær hyne het-ware
hilde ge-hnægdon,
elne ge-eódon
5830 mid ofer-mægene,
þ se byrn-wíga
búgan sceólde;
feóll on feðan:
nalles frætwe geaf
ealdor dúgoðe.
Us wæs á-syððan
mere-Wioingas
milts un-gyfeðe.
Ne ic te Sweó-ðeóde
5840 sibbe oððe treówe
wihte ne wéne;

5822 scapen. 5837 Wi-cinga.

ac wæs wíde cúð
þte Ongen-ðió
ealdre be-snýðede
Hæð-cen Hreþling,
wið Hrefna-wudu,
þá, for on-m[ed]lan,
ærest ge-sóhton
Geáta leóde
5850 gúð-Scilfingas.
Sona hī se fróda
fæder Oht-heres,
eald and eges-full,
hond-slyht á-geaf;
á-breót brī-wísan
brýda heorde,
gomela ió-meowl[an],
golde be-rofene,
Onelan modor
5860 and Oht-heres;
and ðá folgode
feorh-ge-níðlan,
oððæt hí oð-eódon
earfoð-líce
in Hrefnes-holt,
hláf-ord-leáse.
Be-sæt ðá sin-herge
sweorda láfe,
wundū werge,
5870 [weán] oft ge-hét [193b.]

5844 besníðede. 5855 ábreát.

earmre teóhhe
ond-lo[nge] niht;
cwæð he on mergenne
méces ecgum
getan wolde,
sum on galg-treówu
tó gamene:
frófor eft ge-lamp
sárig-módū,
somod ær-dæge,
syððan híe Hyge-láces
horn and býman,
gealdor on-geaton,
þá se góda côm
leóda dúgoðe
on last faran.

XLI.

Wæs sió swát-swaðu
Swóna and Geáta,
wæl-ræs weora,
wíde ge-sýne;
hú ða folc mid hī
fæhðe tó-wehton.
Ge-wát him ðá se góda
mid his gædelingū,
fród fela-geómor,
fæsten sécean,
eorl Ongen-þió

5876 g-treówū. 5888 Sweóna. 5889 wera.

ufor on-cirde;
hæfde Hige-láces
5900 hilde ge-frunen,
wlonces wíg-cræft;
wiðres ne trúwode
þ he sæ-mannū
4 on-sacan mihte,
heáðo-líðendū,
hord for-standan
bearn and bryde;
beáh eft þonan
9 eald under eorð-weall.
5910 Ðá wæs æht boden
Sweóna leódū,
segn Hige-láce[s];
3 freoðo-wong þone
ford ofer-eódon
syððan Hreðlingas
tó hagan þrungon.
Ðær wearð Ongen-ðió
ecgū sweordū,
blonden-fexa
5920 on-bid wrecen,
þ se þeód-cyning
ðafian sceólde
eafores ánne dóm. [194]
Hyne yrringa
Wulf Won-reding
wæpne ge-ræhte,

5916 sweorda. 5923 Iofores.

þ hī for swenge
swát ædrū sprong
forð under fexe :
5930 næs he forht swá ðéh
gomela Scilfing,
ac for-geald hraðe
wyrsan wrixle
wæl-hlem þone, 119
syððan ðeód-cyning
þyder on-cirde.
Ne meahte se snella
sunu Won-redes
ealdū ceorle
5940 hond-slyht giofan,
ac he hī on heáfde
helm ǽr ge-scer,
þ he blóde fāh
búgan sceólde ;
feóll on foldan,
næs he fǽge þá git ;
ac he hyne ge-wyrpte
þeáh ðe hī wund hríne.
Let se hearda
5950 Hige-láces þegn
bráde méce
þá his bróðor læg,
eald sweord eótonisc
entiscne helm
brecan ofer bord-weal ;

5929 feaxe. 5940 gifan.
5942 ge-scear.

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ðá ge-beáh cyning
folces hyrde,
wæs in feorh dropen:
ðá wæron monige
5960 þe his mæg wriðon
ricone á-rærdon,
ðá hī ge-rýmed wearð
þ híe wæl-stówe
wealdan móston;
þenden reáfode
rinc óðerne;
namon Ongen-ðió
íren-byrnan, 121
heard swyrd hilted
5970 and his helm somod,
háres hyrste,
Hige-láce bær.
He [ðám] frætwū feng
and hī fægre ge-hét
leána[on] leódū, [194b.]
and ge-læsta swá:
geald þone gúð-ræs
Geáta dryhten,
Hreðles eafora,
5980 þá he tó hám be-côm
Eofore and Wulfe mid;
ofer máðmam sealde
hiora ge-hwæðrū
hund þusenda

5958 him. drepen. 5972 Lǽron.
5976 ge-læste. 5982 máðmum.

landes and locenra beága:
ne ðorfte hī ða leán oð-wítan
mon on middan-gearde,
syððan híe ða mærða ge-slógon;
and ðá Iofore for-geaf
5990 án-gan dohtor,
hám-weorðunge,
hyldo tó wedde.
Ðæt ys sió fǽhðo
and se feónd-scipe,
wæl-níð wera,
ðæs ðe ic hafo,
þe us séceað tó
Sweóna leóda,
5999 syððan híe ge-fricgeað
6000 freán úserne
ealdor-leásne,
þone ðe ér ge-heóld
wið hettendū
hord and ríce,
æfter hæleða hrýre
hwáte Scildingas,
folc-red fremede,
oððe furdur gen
eorl-scipe efnde.
6010 Me is ófost betost
þ we þeód-cyning
þær sceáwian,
and þone ge-bringan

5996 ðæs þe ic wén hafo.
6007 folc-ræd.
5998 leóde.
6010 Nu.

þe ús beágas geaf
on âd-fære:
ne scel ánes hwæt
meltan mid þā módigan,
ac þær is máðma hord,
gold un-ríme
6020 grīme ge-ceá[pod];
and nú æt síðestan
sylfes feore
beágas (be-bóh)te
þa sceall brond fretan,
æled þeccean,
nalles eorl wegan [195]
máððum tó ge-mýndum,
né mægð scýne
habban on healse
6030 hring-weorðunge;
ac sceall geómor-mód,
golde be-reáfod,
oft, nalles æne,
el-land tredan; h121
nú se here-wísa
hleahtor á-legde,
gamen and gleó-dreám:
forðon sceall gár wesan
monig morgen-ceald
6040 mundū be-wunden,
hæfen on handa;
nalles hearpan swég
wígend weccean,

6016 sceal.

Digitized by Google

ac se wonna hrefn
fûs ofer fægū
fela reordian,
earne secgan
hú hī æt æte speów,
þenden he wiþ wulf
6050 wæl reáfode.
Swá se secg hwata
secgende wæs
láðra spella,
he ne leág fela
wyrda ne worda.
Weorod eall á-rás,
eódon un-blíðe
under earna næs,
wollen teare,
6060 wundur sceáwian:
fundon þá on sande
sáwul-leásne
hlim-bed healdan
þone þe hī hringas geaf
ærran mælū:
þá wæs ende-dæg
gódu ge-gongen
þ se gúð-cyning,
Wedra þeóden,
6070 wundor-deáðe swealt:
ær hi þær ge-segan
syl-lícran wiht,

6044 hræfn. 6049 wulfe.
6063 hlin-bed. 6071 gesegon.

Digitized by Google

6073 wyrm on wonge,
wiðer-ræhtes þær
láðne licgean;
wæs se leg-draca,
grim-líc grý[re],
gledū be-swæled, [195b]
se wæs fiftiges
6080 fót-ge-mearces
lang on legere:
lyft-wynne heóld
nihtes hwílū,
nyðer eft ge-wát
dennes niosian,
wæs ðá deáðe fæst;
hæfde eorð-scrafa
ende ge-nyttod;
him big-stódan
6090 bunan and orcas,
discas lagon,
and dýre swyrd
ómige þurh-etone,
swá hie wiðð eorðan fæðm
þusend wintra
þær eardodon:
þoñ wæs þ yrfe
eácen-cræftig,
iú-monna gold
6100 galdre be-wunden,
þ ðam hring-sele
hrínan ne móste

6089 stódon. 6093 etene.

gumena ænig,
nefne God sylfa,
sigora sóð cyning,
sealde þā ðe he wólde
7 (he is manna ge-hyld,) p 123
hord openian,
efne swá hwylcū manna
6110 swá hī ge-met ðúhte.

XLII.

Ðá wæs ge-sýne
þ se síð ne ðáh
þā ðe un-rihte
inne ge-hydde,
wræce under wealle;
weard ær of-slóh
feara sūne,
þá sió fæhð ge-wearð
ge-wrecen wráð-líce,
6120 wundur hwar þon̄
eorl ellen-rôf
ende ge-fere
3 líf-ge-sceafta;
þon̄ leng ne mæg
mon mid his[mag]ū
6 medu-seld búan,
swá wæs Bió-wulfe
þá he biorges weard, [196]
sóhte searo-níðas,
6130 seolfa ne cúðe þurh hwæt

6131 his worulde ge-dál
weorðan sceólde:
swá hit oð dómes dæg
diópe be-nemdon
þeódnas mære,
þa ðæt þær dydon,
þ se secg wære
synnū scildig,
hergū ge-heaðerod,
6140 hell-bendū fæst,
wōmū ge-wítnad,
se ðone wong stráde;
3 næs he gold-hwæte,
gearwor hæfde
ágendes ést
ær ge-sceawod.
Wig-láf maðelode
Wih-stánes sunu:
oft sceall eorl monig
6150 ánes willan
wræca dreógeð,
swá ús ge-worden is;
ne meahton we ge-læran
leófne þeóden,
ríces hyrde,
ræd ænigne,
þ he ne grétte
gold-weard þone;

Not. translated

6151 dreógan.

Digitized by Google

lete hyne licgean
6160 þær he longe wæs,
wícū wunian
oð woruld-ende:
heóldon heáh ge-sceap;
hord ys ge-sceáwod
grīme ge-gongen,
wæs þ gifeðe tó swíð
7 þe ðone þyder on-tyhte: q v lack
8 Ic wæs þær inne
and þ eall geond seh
6170 recedes geatwa, p 124
þá me ge-rýmed wæs;
nealles swǽs-líce
síð á-lýfed
inn under eorð-weall;
ic on óforste ge-feng
micle mid mundū
7 mægen-byrðenne p 124
hord-ge-streóna,
hider út æt-bær [196b.]
6180 cyninge mínū;
cwíco wæs þá géna
wís and ge-wittig,
worn eall ge-spræc
gomol on ge-líðo,
and eowic grétan hét,
bæd þ ge ge-worhton

6163 healdan. 6169 seah. 6181 cwíce.

Digitized by Google

æfter wines dædū
in bǽl-stede
beorh þone heán,
6190 micelne and mǽrne,
swá he manna wæs
wígend weorð-fullost
wíde geond eorðan,
þenden he burh-welan
brúcan móste.
Uton nú efstan
óðre
seón and sécean
searo-ge-þræc,
6200 wundur under wealle;
ic eów wísige
þ ge ge-noge
ne on sceáwiað
beágas and brád gold:
síe sió bǽr gearo,
ædre ge-æfned
þoñ we út cymen,
and þoñ ge-ferian
freán úserne,
6210 leófne mannan,
þær he longe sceal
on ðæs waldendes
wǽre ge-þolian.
Hét ðá ge-beódan

6197 óðre [síðe].

Digitized by Google

byre Wih-stánes,
hæle hilde-dior,
hæleðа monegū
bold-ágendra,
þ hīe bæl-wudu
6220 feorran feredon,
folc-ágende
gódū tó-génes:
nú sceal gled fretan,
weaxan wonna leg,
wígena strengel
þone ðe oft ge-bâd
isern-scúre,
þonn stræla storm
strengū ge-bæded
6230 scóc ofer scild-weall,
sceft-nytte heóld
fæder-gearwū fús,
fláne full eóde.
Huru se snotra
sunu Wih-stánes
á-cígde of corðre
cyninges þegnas, [198]
. . . . . .
þa sélestan,
6240 eóde eáhta sum
under in-wít-hrof;
hilde-rinc sū
on handa bær

6230 sceaft-n. 6232 feðer-gearwū.
6238 seofone tó somne.

6244 æled-leóman, p. 125
se ðe on ordé geóng;
næs ðá on-hlytme
7 hwá þ hord strude,
8 syððan or-wearde
ænigne dæl
6250 secgas ge-segon,
on sele wunian,
læne licgan;
lyt ænig mearn
6 þ híe ófost-líc
út ge-feredon
dýre máðmas;
dracan éc scufun,
8 wyrm of weall-clif,
leton wæg niman,
6260 flód fæðmian
frætwa hyrde:
þ wæs wunden gold
on wæn hladen,
æg-hwæs un-rim;
æþelinge boren,
hár hilde-[deór],
tó Hrones-næsse.

XLIII.

Him ðá ge-giredan
Geáta leóde
6270 âd on eorðan,

6257 scufon. 6262 þá wæs.
6265 æðeling ge-b. 6268 ge-giredon.

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un-wác-lícne,
helm-be-hongen,
hilde-bordu,
beorhtū byrnū,
swá he béna wæs:
á-legdon ðá tó-middes
mærne þeóden
hæleð hiófende,
hláf-ord leófne;
on-gunnon þá on beorge
bæl-fýra mæst
wigend weccan:
wu[du-r]êc á-stáh
sweart of swíc-ðole,
swógende let
[wópe] be-wunden,
wind-blond ḡ-læg,
oð þ he ða bán-hus
ge-brocen hæfd[e],
hát on hreðre;
higū un-róte
mód-ceare mændon,
mon-dryhtnes [cwealm];
swylce geómor-gyd
lat....meowle..... [198b.]
wunden heorde
sorg-cearig sælde
..... ge-neahhe
þ hió hyre .....
..... gas heorde

6291 hygu.

..ode wa.. ælla wonn
.....
hildes egesan
heaðo-helm mid
heofon réce s....
Ge-worhton ða
Wedra leóde
hláw on líde,
se wæs heáh and brád,
6310 et-líðendū
wíde tó-sýne,
and be-timbredon
on tyn-dagum
beadu-rófis bécn,
bronda .....
wealle be-worhton
swá hyt weorð-lícost
fore-snotre m̄
findan mihton:
6320 hí on beorg dydon
bég and b[eorht] siglu,
eall swylce hyrsta,
swylce on horde ær
níð-hvdige m̄
ḡ-num̄ hæfdon;
for-leton eorla g-streón
eorðan healdan,
gold on greóte,
þær hit nú gen lífað
6330 eldū swá un-nýt

6304 helme. 6310 wæg-l. 6321 beág.

swá hit [æror] wæs.
Đá ȳbe hláw riodan
hilde-deóre,
æþelinges. . cann,
ealra twelfa
woldon . . . . cwiðan
kyning mænan,
word-gyd wrecen
sylfe sprečan;
6340 eahtodan eorl-scipe,
and his ellen-weorc
dúguðū démdon,
swá hit ḡ-d[éfe bið]
þ mon his wine-dryhṫ
wordū herḡ,
ferhðū freo[ge]
[þonne] he forð scile
of líc-haman,
[læne] weorðan.
6350 Swá be-gnornodon
Geáta leóde
hláf-ord [leóf]ne
heorð-ḡ-neátas;
cwædon þ he wære
wyrold-cyning[a]
manna mildust
and m[on-þwæ]rust,
leódū líðost
and lóf-geornost.

6332 ridon. 6340 eahtodon.
6355 woruld-c.

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THE

TRAVELLER'S SONG,

AND THE

BATTLE OF FINNES-BURH.

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THE

TRAVELLER'S SONG.

Wíd-síð maðolade [fol. 84b.]
word-hord on-leác,
se ðe mæst
mærða ofer eorðan,
folca geond ferde:
oft he flette ge-þáh
myne-lícne máþþum;
hine from Myrgingum
æþele on-wócon;
10 he mid Ealh-hilde
fǽlre freóþu-webban,
forman síþe,
Hreð-cyninges
hám ge-sóhte,
eástan of Ongle,
Eorman-ríces,
wráþes wǽr-logan.
On-gon þá worn sprecan:
fela ic monna ge-frægn
20 mægþum wealdan,
(sceal þeóda ge-hwylc

[1] maðelode. [3] fandode.
[4] mægða. [21] þeódna.

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þeáwum lifgan,
eorl æfter óþrum
éðle rǽdan,
se þe his þeóden-stól
ge-þeón wile,)
ðára wæs Wala [fol. 85]
hwíle sélast,
and Alexandreas
30 ealra rícost
monna cynnes,
and he mǽst ge-þáh
þára þe ic ofer foldan
ge-frægen hæbbe.
Ætla weóld Hunum,
Eorman-ríc Gotum,
Becca Baningum,
Burgendum Gifica;
Cásere weóld Creacum,
40 and Cælic Finnum,
Hagena Holm-rýcum,
and Henden Glommum;
Witta weóld Swǽfum,
Wada Hælsingum,
Meaca Myrgingum,
Mearc-healf Hundingum,
Ðeód-ríc weóld Froncum,
Ðyle Rondingū,
Breoca Brondingū,
50 Billing Wernum;
Os-wine weóld Eowum,

28 sélest.

and Ytum Gef-wulf;
Fin Folc-walding
Fresna cynne;
Síge-here lengest
Sǽ-denum weóld,
Hnæf Hocingum,
Helm Wulfingū,
Wald Woingum,
60 Wod Ðyringū,
Sǽ-ferðð Sycgum,
Sweóm Ongend-þeów,
Sceaft-here Ymbrum,
Sceafa Long-beardū,
Hûn-hæt Werum,
and Holen Wrosnum.
Hring-weald wæs haten
Here-farena cyning;
Offa weóld Ongle,
70 Alewih Denū,
se wæs þára manna
módgast ealra;
nó hwæþre he ofer Offan
eorl-scype fremede,
ac Offa ge-slóg
ǽrest monna,
cniht-wesende,
cyne-ríca mǽst:
nǽnig efen-eald him
80 eorl-scipe máran,

[69] Onglum.

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on orette
áne sweorde;
merce ge-mǽrde
wiȝ Myrgingū
bi Fífel-dore;
heóldon forȝ siþþan
Engle and Swǽfe
swá hit Offa ge-slóg.
Hróþ-wulf and Hróȝ-gár
90 heóldon lengest
sibbe æt somne, [85b.]
suhtor-fædran,
siþþan hý for-wrǽcon
Wí-cinga cynn,
and Ingeldes
ord for-bigdan,
for-heówan æt Heorote
Heaȝo-beardna þrym.
Swá ic geond ferde fela
100 fremdra londa,
geond ginne grund;
gódes and yfles
þær ic cunnade
cnósle bi-dǽled,
freó-mægum feor
folgade wíde;
for þon ic mæg singan

83 mearce.
96 for-bigdon.
97 for-heówon.
105 freó-magum.
106 folgode.

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and secgan spell,
mǽnan fore mengo
110 in meodu-healle
hú me cyne-góde
cystum dóhten.
Ic wæs mid Hunum
and mid Hréð-gótum,
mid Sweóm and mid Geátum,
and mid Súþ-Denum;
mid Wenlum ic wæs and mid
Wærnum,
and mid Wi-cingū;
mid Gef-þum ic wæs and mid
Winedū,
120 and mid Gef-flegum;
mid Englum ic wæs, and mid
Swæfū,
and mid Ænenum;
mid Seaxum ic wæs and Sycgum,
and mid Sweord-werum;
mid Hronum ic wæs and mid
Deánum,
and mid Heaþo-Reamum;
mid Ðyringum ic wæs,
and mid Ðrowendū;
and mid Burgendum
130 þær ic beág ge-þáh,
me þær Gúð-here for-geaf

112 dóhton.

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glæd-lícne máþþum
songes tó leáne,
næs þ sæne cyning.
Mid Froncū ic wæs, and mid
Frysum,
and mid Frumtingū;
mid Rugum ic wæs and mid
Glommū,
and mid Rum-Walum.
Swylce ic wæs on Eatule
140 mid Ælf-wine,
se hæfde mon-cynnes,
míne ge-frǽge,
leohteste hond
lófes tó wyrcenne,
heortan un-hneáweste
hringa ge-dáles,
beorhtra beága, [86]
bearn Eád-wines.
Mid Sercingum ic wæs,
150 and mid Seringum,
mid Creacū ic wæs, and mid
Finnū,
and mid Cásere
se þe win-burga
ge-weald áhte,
Wiolane and Wilna,
and Wala-ríces;

144 wyrcanne.
155 welena and wilna. W. G.

Digitized by Google

mid Scottū ic wæs and mid
Peohtum,
and mid Scride-Finnum;
mid Lid-wicingum ic wæs,
and mid Leonū,
160 and mid Long-beardum;
mid Hæðnum, and mid
Hælebum,
and mid Hundingum;
mid Israhelum ic wæs,
and mid Exsyringum,
mid Ebreum, and mid Indeum,
and mid Egyptum;
mid Moidum ic wæs, and mid
Persum,
and mid Myrgingum,
and Mofdingum,
170 and ongend Myrgingum,
and mid Amothingum;
mid East-Ðyringum ic wæs, and
mid Eolum,
and mid Istum,
and Idumingum;
and ic wæs mid Eorman-ríce
ealle þrage,
þær me Gotena cyning
góde dóhte,
se me beág for-geaf

161—175 appear to me spurious; they can hardly be reduced to sense or metre.

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180 Burg-warena fruma
on þam siex hund wæs
smǽtes goldes,
ge-scyred sceatta
scilling ríme;
þone ic Eád-gilse
on æht sealde
mínum hlëó-drihtne,
þá ic tó hám bi-cwom,
leófum tó leáne
190 þæs þe he me lond for-geaf,
mínes fæder éþel,
freá Myrginga.
And me þá Ealh-hild
óþerne for-geaf,
dryht-cwen dúguþe,
dohtor Eád-wines;
hyre lóf lengde
geond londa fela
þoñ ic be songe
200 secgan sceólde,
hwær ic under swegl
sélast wisse
gold-hrodene cwen
giefe bryttian, [86b.]
doñ wit scilling
scíran reorde
for uncrum síge-dryhtne
song á-hófan:

202 sélest. 208 á-hofon.

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hlúde bi hearpan
210 hleóþor swinsade:
þon̄ monige men
módum wlonce
wordum sprecan
þa þe wel cúþan,
ȝ hí næfre song
séllan ne hýrdon.
Ðonan ic ealne geond hwearf
éþel Gotena,
sóhte ic â síþa
220 þa sélestan,
þæt wæs inn-weorud
Earman-ríces.
Heðcan sóhte ic, and Beádecan,
and Herelingas;
Emercan sóhte ic, and Fridlan,
ond Eást-Gotan,
fródne and gódne
fæder Un-wenes.
Seccan sóhte ic, and Beccan,
230 Seafolan and Ðeód-ríc.
Heaþo-ríc and Sifecan,
Hliþe, and Incgen-þeów;
Eád-wine sóhte ic, and Elsan,
Ægel-mund, and Hun-gár,
and þa wloncan ge-dryht
wiðð Myrginga;

213 sprǽcon. 214 cúþon. 222 Eormenríces.

Digitized by Google

Wulf-here sóhte ic, and Wyrm-
here.
ful oft þær wig ne á-læg
þonne Hræda here
240 heardum sweordū,
ymb Wistla-wudu
wérgan sceóldon
ealdne éþel-stól
Ætlan leódum:
Ræd-here sóhte ic, and Rond-here,
Rum-stán, and Gísl-here,
Wiþer-gield, and Freoþe-ríc,
Wudgan, and Haman;
ne wæron þ ge-síþa
250 þa sæmestan
þeáh þe ic hý â-nihst
nemnan sceólde;
ful oft of þám heápe
hwínende fleág
giellende gár
on grome þeóde;
wræccan þær weóldan
wundnan golde
werum and wífum,
260 Wudga and Hama.
Swá ic þ symle on-fond
on þére feringe [87]
þæt se biþ leófast

257 weóldon. 258 wundum.

Digitized by Google

lond-búendum,
se þe him God sylеð
gumena ríce
tó ge-healdenne
þenden he her leofað.
Swá scríþende
270 ge-sceapum hweorfað
gleó-men gumena
geond grunda fela,
þearfe secgað,
þonc-word sprecaþ,
simle súð oþþe norð
sumne ge-métað
gydda gleáwne,
geofum un-hneáwne,
se þe fore dúguþe wile
280 dôm â-ræran,
eorl-scipe æfnan,
oþþæt eal scaceð
leóht and líf somod.
Lóf se ge-wyrceð
hafað under heofonū
heáh-fæstne dôm.

267 ge-healdanne.

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THE

BATTLE OF FINNES-BURH.

. . . . nas byrnaþ,
næfre hleóþrode þá
hearo-geóng cyning,
né þis ne dagaþ eástan,
né her draca ne fleógeþ,
né her þisse healle
hornas ne byrnaþ,
ac her forþ-beraþ,
fugelas singaþ,
10 gylleþ græg-hama,
gúþ-wudu hlynneþ,
scyld scefte on-cwyþ;
nú scíneþ þes mona
waþol under wolcnum,
nú á-rísaþ weá-dæda
þe þisne folces níþ
fremman willaþ:
ac on-wacnigeaþ nú
wígend míne,
20 habbaþ eówre landa [æht],

[9] heoro-g. [12] sceafte. [20] eówra.

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hicgeaþ on ellen,
windaþ on orde,
wesaþ on-móde.
Þá á-rás monig
gold-headen þegn,
gyrde hine his swurde;
þá tó dura eódon
driht-líce cempan,
Sige-ferþ and Eaha
30 hyra sweord ge-tugon,
and æt óþrum durum
Ord-láf and Gúþ-láf,
and Hengest sylf
hwearf him on laste.
Þá gyt Gár-ulf
Gúþ-ere styrode,
þæt he swá freolíc-feorh
forman síþe
tó þære healle durum
40 hyrsta ne bæran,
nú hyt níþa heard
á-nyman wólde;
ac he fragn ofer eal
un-dearninga,
deór-mód hæleþ,
hwá þa duru heólde.
Sige-ferþ is mín nama, cwæþ he,

21 hycgeaþ.
25 gold-hladen.
40 bære.
41 hit.
42 á-niman.
43 frægn.

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ic eom Secgena leód,
wrecten wíde-cúð;
50 fela ic weána ge-bád,
heardra hilda,
ðe is gyt her witod
swæ þer ðú sylf tó me
sécean wylle.
Ðá wæs on healle
wæl-slihta ge-hlyn,
✗ † sceólde † célod bord
† ge-numon handa,
bán-helm berstan,
60 buruh-ðelu dynede,
oð æt þére gúðe
Gár-ulf ge-crang,
ealra érest
eorð-búendra,
Gúð-láfes sunu: ymb hyne
gódra fæla hwearf
lacra hrær
hræfen wandrode,
sweart and sealo-brún;
70 swurd-leóma stód

49 wræccena. 53 swá þær. 54 wille.
57 As they stand, this and the following line are unintelligible. As the metre is defective, it is possible that some lines may have been lost between them: I will venture a correction, ✗ sceólde næglod bord ge-numen handa.
66 fela. 67 láðra hræw.

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swylce eal Finns-buruh
fýrenu wǽre;
ne ge-frægn ic næfre wurðlicor
æt wera hilde
sixtig sige-beorna
sél ge-bǽran,
† ne nefre swá
noc hwítne medo
sél for-gyldan,
80 ðonne Hnæfe guldon
his hæg-stealdas:
híg fúhton fíf dagas
swá hyra nán ne feól
driht-gesíða,
ac híg ða duru heóldon;
ðá ge-wát him wund hæleð
† on wæg gangan,
sǽde þ his byrne
á-brocen wǽre,
90 here-sceorpum hrór,
and eác was his helm ðyrl.
Ðá hine sóna frægn
folces hyrde
hú ða wígend hyra
wunda ge-nǽson,
oððe hwæþer ðǽra hyssa. . .

76 sele. 77 næfre. 78 not-h.
85 dura. 87 weg. 91 wæs.

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GLOSSARY.

að-sweord (m) *jusjurandum*. l. 4123. A word that has nothing to do with sweord (n) *ensis*. Ohd. suert or suart, *jusjurandum* eid-suart. *id.* Gloss. Rab. 968a. Jun. 210. aid-suart. Gl. Par. vid. Graff's Diutiska. 1. 253. So O. Nor. eiþa svarþa. *juramenta jurata*. Gudr. I, 20. Eiþa opt vm svarþa. *juramenta sæpe jurata*. Atl. q. Grænl. 31.

blonca (m) *equus*. l. 1705. Cod. Ex. fol. 106. So Lajam. fol. 32b. 77b. &c. Schilter in his Thesaurus gives the Ohd. planchaz. *equus pallidus; hodie* blank. This is however merely the neut. sing. of the adj. planh. *albus;* and is consonant to the Teutonic custom, by which general names for horses are neuter: but it is clear that this lost its force early in England, for not only does the passage in the Exeter-book prove that the word was a masculine of the form given above, which might be abundantly shown from middle English romances, but in one of these latter we have "very *broune* was the *blonk*." Gaw. and Golog. iii. 19. (ed. 1509). The word is found, Will. and Werw. p. 120. Cott. MSS. Nero. A. X. fol. 76. 76b. (in the former of which two last references we have the unusual *blonkkes* for *blonken*). The word is not of common occur-

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rence in A. S., which uses, 1. Mearh (m). *equus*. Myre. (f) *equa*. 2. eoh (m) ge-hleóp þone eoh. Bryhtn. l. 375. vide also Cod. Exon. fol. 89b. the O. Sax. ehu. Helj. 12. This is also the name of the Rune in the Anglo-Saxon and O. Saxon alphabets, under the equivalent form *eh*. 3. Wicg (n) which occurs in this poem, l. 467, 570, 627, 2033, 2799, 4344. Cod. Ex. fol. 104, 106, 106b. 127. O. Sax. uuigg. Helj. 12. O. Nor. wigg. Gud-qu. II. 18. Sigurd-qu. II. a. 17. (Edd Sæm. vol. ii. p. 161, 303). 4. hengest (m) *equus admissarius*. 5. hors (n.) 6. fola (m) *pullus*. 7. máðm. *cimelium; donum*. though constantly used in this sense, and in the Gothic Bible (maiþms) translating δωρον, is so frequently conjoined in A. S. poems with mearh, as to render it probable that it was once a name for a *horse*. vide Cod. Ex. fol. 90. 123b. So Mhd. Meiden. *equus*. Ditr. 2904, 2908, 3153.

bleáte. *deletus*. l. 5643. bleáta drinc. *potus lethalis*. Cod. Ex. fol. 47. Got. Bláutjan. *delere*. Marc. vii. 18. but bleáðe *segniter* from bleáð, *segnis*. Cædm. 206 where Thorpe's correction is faulty. Conf. Cod. Verc. i. 406. ne wæs him bleáð hige. O. Nor. Blauþr. *mollis, meticulosus. effœminatus*. Sig. q. II, b. Atl. 9. Grænl. 24.

bord-hreóða (m) *clypei defensio*. l. 4401. Cædm. p. 187, 192. Cod. Verc. i, 260. So scyld-hreóða. Cædm. 184. Cod. Ex. 17b. where this reading must be substituted for the faulty scyld-hreada. There is in no one of the Teutonic or Scandinavian languages anything corresponding to hreóða, which Grimm. (Gr. ii. 499.) upon what authority I know not, translates *testudo*. The

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hint he throws out respecting hreód *arundo* is quite inadmissible upon etymological grounds, though it agrees very well with what we know of the composition of the shield. Without assuming any such change of r and l, as in the Ohd. chilihha. A. S. cyreke. *ecclesia.* cumbor, cumbol *signum.* brember, brembel *tribulus,* I think hreóð and hleóð to be words of one and the same meaning, viz. *protectio. defensio.*

bront. *æstuans. torrens.* l. 475, 1130. Cod. Verc. i, 550. vi, 473. O. Nor. brandr (m) *rostrum navis,* i. e. *pars æstuans.* Sigurþ-qu. ii. a. 17.

eofor (m) *aper. cassis apro ornatus.* l. 2217. &c. Cod. Ex. fol. 92. The superstition which considered a *boar,* the animal sacred to the goddess Freya, to be an amulet in war, and which is noticed by Tacitus, *Mor. Germ.* xlv., is described at length in l. 2053, &c. 2905, &c. though I am otherwise unacquainted with the word *wala* in the former passage; see, however, Biörn, in voc, *wala;* see also, the gloss. to vol. i. and iii. of the Edda Sæm. in voc. hildi-swini, the former of which is mistaken as to the first word in the compound: it is the A. S. hild (f) *bellum,* as in the compounds hilde-rinc, hilde-deór, hilde-gríme.

eólet (m or n) l. 446. This difficult and obscure word, which to the best of my knowledge is found only in this passage, may possibly mean *molestia.* In the Ægis-drecka, 3. Loki says,

> Ioll oc afa
> færi ec Aso sonom
> oc blend ec þeim swá meini mióþ.
> (Ed. Sæm. i. p. 152.)

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but both the words, Iól (for which by the way read Iól with Arn. Magn.) and Afo are very obscure. The probable sense of the passage is; *certamen et ærumnam porto filiis Asorum, et sic illis noxiâ medum misceo.* If the eól in eólet be this root, the word will be an analogous formation to the masculines ylf-et, gan-et, hyrn-et, the feminines þeów-et, and freót for freów-et; see however Grimm. Gr. ii. 220. and Gloss. vol. i. Ed. Sæm. *in voc.* Afo.

eormen-cyn. (n) *genus humanum.* l. 3909. Cod. Ex. fol. 88b. eormen-grund. l. 1711. This eormen appears in composition like mægen. regen. and þeód. to be merely an intensative. That it derives its power from the name of some heathen god is probable; even in A. S. I think I have found traces of such a meaning; for instance, in the dialogue between Salomon and Saturn in the Red book of Darby (CC. Col. Cant. No 422. p. 19.), I find the following words put into the mouth of the former, þú eart swíðe bittres cynnes. eorre eormen-strýnde. *es tu valde amari generis, iratæ ethnicæ progeniei.* It is found in the following words, Got. Airmanareiks. A. S. Eormen-ríc. l. 2402. Cod. Ex. fol. 84b. 86. O. Nor. Iörmunríkr. Indeed it is very common in A. S. proper names. In the MS. No. 201. CCC. fol. 147, I find the following Eormen-réd, Eormenburh, Eormen-giš, Eórmen-hild. Ohd. Hermunduri, (Tac); Irmin-Got, Hild. l. 28. Irmindiót, *id.* l. 12, *orbis terrarum.* Irmin-súl. *altissima (? divina) columna.* Docen, 203b. Gl. Mons. 360. see also, H. Meibom de Irminsula. O. Sax. Irmin-thiód, *tota terra.* Hélj. 10, 33, 41, 67, 80, 81. Irmin-man, *genus humanum id.* 38. but in p. 87, l. 13, irmin-thiód denotes

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merely *ingens multitudo*, and in l. 21 is explained by megin-thiód, and in p. 88, by mankunnies manag. O. Nor. iörmun-gandr. *serpens immanis*, iörmun-rekkr. *bos jugalis*. iörmungrund. *orbis terrarum*, see Lex. Mythol. vol. iii. Edd. Sæm. in voce. iörmun. A. S. Eormenláf. Norm. Prop. Beów. l. 2647. This word in l. 4463, seems merely to refer to some ancient and by-gone might.

eóten (m) *gigas. monstrum*. l. 223, 836, 1515, 1760, &c. I incline to the belief expressed by Mr. Price, that our forefathers called *Jutes* any race not immediately connected with themselves. Thus, before the coming of Woden and the Asi, all the Scanian peninsula was possessed by *Jutes*; and Brutus found in Britain, *Eotends* or *Jutes*. In the Waf-þrudnismál (Ed. Sæm. vol. i. p. 3, &c.) a passage occurs curiously illustrating this view of the case. In stanza 15, Odin asks,

> Hwé se á heiter
> er deiler meþ iötna sonom
> grund oc meþ Goþom.
>
> Quomodo fluvius nominatur
> Qui dividit inter filios gigantum
> Terram atque Deos.

to which the reply is, (st. 16.)

> Ifing heiter á
> er deiler meþ alda sonom
> grund oc meþ Goþom.
>
> Ifing fluvius nominatur
> Qui dividit inter filios hominum
> Terram atque Deos.

The race of mortals then were *Jutes* in the

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eyes of Odin. In l. 2137, 2169, 2283, Eotenas must be the name of the Frisians, who we know were afterwards so called. And that even the Mythic Iötnar of the Edda were originally a race, and a race cognate to our own, seems probable from the specimens of their language preserved to us in the Al-vísmál. (Ed. Sæm. vol. i. p. 253, &c.) Whatever may have given rise to the term in its general acceptation, it was early applied to any being possessed of supernatural strength, or defiled by supernatural crime, and in the latter sense it continued long in use. The mighty sword with which Beówulf slew the Grendel's mother, and which none but himself could have wielded, was "eald sweord eótonisc," and was forged by the giants who lived before the flood. So the antique vessels of gold found by Wig-láf in the Dragon's cave were stored by *Jutes*, and the work of *entas*, a work nearly synonymous with *eótenas*, vide l. 3356, enta ær-ge-weorc. and Cod. Ex. fol. 77b. eald enta ge-weorc. In Lajamon the superhuman strength of Corineus is said to be such, "swylc hit weore an eotend." In all these passages there is no bad sense, but rather a feeling of the mighty works of old; and so in Ohd. we have entisk used for *antiquus*. Diutiska, 1. 493, 533. Every thing evil was however attributed to the *Jutes*, as may be seen in the Edda. Even their women did not escape; witness the compensation demanded by Hrímgerda for the slaughter of her father. Helga. qu. Hadd. st. 24. where she says:

waki þú Helgi
ok bæt wiþ Hrím-gerþi

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er þú lezt höggwin Hata.
eina nótt knä hon
hia jöfri sofa
þa hefir hon bavlva bætvr.
vigila tu Halga
et emenda Hrimgerdæ
quod tu Hatim percussisti.
Per unam noctem liceat illi (i. e. H—.)
cum principe dormire
tunc habebit illa malorum satisfactionem.

In spite of the elaborate defence of the author of the Wilkina Saga, the Jutish lady might justly have retorted upon Sigurd's daughter. (Wilk. Sag. p. 175, etc. Ed. Peringskiold.) In Piers Plowman the word *Jutte* is used as a term of contempt; fol. 52b. (Ed. 1550) and Jamieson in his Etym. Dict. gives it as yet subsisting in Scotland; though he is not fortunate in his etymology of the word, (from Giutan. *fundere*, quasi *dregs*,) any more than Grimm, who more ingeniously, I think, than soundly, derives it from etan, *edere*. (Gram. ii. 25.) Lastly, in the prose Reinke de Vos, the carpenter's wife is called Vrw Yutte, Lib. i. cap. 9. The reader is referred for further information to the Lex. Myth. Ed. Sæm. vol. iii. *in voce*.

Fífel-cyn (n) *genus monstrorum*. l. 208. The word fífel is the O. Nor. fífl (n) and denotes *monstrum*. *dæmon infestus*. also *fatuus* as in Norw. and Dan. Fioll. Fiolle. Its true sense is found in the following passage of the Völuspá. st. 45.

Kiöll fer austan
koma mvno Muspellz

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vm lavg lyder
enn Loki styrir.
Fara fiſ-megir
med freka allir
þeim er bródir
Byleips í för.

Carina fertur ab oriente
venient Muspelli
per mare populi:
illam Lokius gubernet.
ibit genus monstruosum
omne cum lupo (Fenri)
quibuscum incedet
frater Byleipi

The same meaning is probably contained in the fífel-streám of Ælf. Boeth. 188. and fífel-wæg. Cod. Verc. vi, 473. in both which passages the word seems to denote some part of the Mediterranean. fífel-dore Cod. Ex. 85, is obscure on account of the second word. At any rate, I must object to the rendering given by Lye of fífel, and apparently recognized by Professor Conybeare, in fífel dore. (Illust. of A. S. Poetry, p. 14.) The derivation of fífel from fíf éðel is contrary to every rule of sound etymology.

firgen. not *igneus*, but *montanus*, in the following compositions, firgen-streám, l. 2718. firgen-beam, l. 2828, &c. It is the Gothic Faírguni (n) *mons*. Mat. viii. 1. Marc. v. 5, 11. Contrariwise the O. Nor. fiörgyn *terra* never occurs in composition. In the Ohd. and other German dialects, the word is lost, but no doubt once existed, from the proper names Vergun and Virgunt. "Der swarz-walt und diu Vergunt." Wilh. d. heil. 175a. see Grimm. Gr. ii. 175.

franca (m) *hastile*. l. 2420. Beorhtn. l. 153, 279.

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Cædm. 119, where see Mr. Thorpe's note on the passage; so also the following passage in the Cott. MS. Jul. E. vii. consisting principally of metrical Lives of Martyrs,

þá stód his *franca*
fúle be-gleddod
mid Julianes blóde
binnan þám ge-sceóte. fol. 17b.

which in the Latin life of St. Basil, from which the Saxon poem was no doubt made, runs thus, "invenit *lanceam* illius sanguine madentem." MSS. Col. Trin. R. 5. 22. fol. 47.

gombe (f) *vectigal*. l. 21. Cædm. 119. The meaning of this obscure word is shown in the following passage of the O. Sax. Hèlj. p. 11.

that im ni mahti átellian.[1]
man gúmonó
sulíca *gambra*
so imo scolda geldan.

i. e. "*such tax as he ought to pay.*" The word here is a sing. acc. of the first strong declension, making its gen. sing. in á; while in A. S. it is either a weak masculine of the form *gomba*, or a feminine, *gombe*. in either case making all its inflections, except the gen. and dat. pl. in *an*. I have given it (f) from the analogy of the O. Sax.; the *r* makes no difficulty since the root *gam* is the same in both words: however as gambra is found both in the Cott. and Munich codices it cannot be considered an error of the copyist. In the passage of Ulfilas corresponding to the above verses, i. e. Luc. ii. 3. the word gameljan is found: this has nothing to do with *gombe*, and must be read ga-méljan *describere*. see Gamban. Gloss. Ed. Sæm. vol. i. and Grimm. Gr. ii. 59.

hafela (m) l. 1337, 2654, 2473, 2842, 2896,

[1] *alettian*, Cod. Mon.

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3041, 3227, 3269, 3557, hafala, l. 886, heafola, l. 5319, 5355, 5390. Probably any head-dress, but in Beówulf universally the mail-hood worn under the helmet. The curious enquirer will find drawings of the hafela in the illuminations prefixed to the O. Sax. Hélj. Cott. MSS. Cal. A. vii. and again Arund. MSS. No. 157. fol. 5; it there appears to join the nose-piece of the helmet, and leave merely the eye uncovered. The only other passages where I have found this word, are Cod. Verc. i, 2284 where it denotes *caput*, and Cod. Ex. fol. 15 and 51, in the first of which it may mean any head-dress; in the latter of these passages it however translates the *cervix* of Felix of Croyland's Latin original; see his Life of St. Guthlac, in the Acta Sanctorum Benedictorum. But there is a difficulty, which is not easily got over, in the world heofula, which occurs in some interlinear glosses to a Latin form of benediction nearly as comprehensive and detailed as Dr. Slop's famous curse. The MS. (Bibl. Publ. Cant. Ll, 1, 10.) is in a very old Saxon hand, and the glosses are of two different periods and in two different characters, one portion of them is however as old as the original MS. Over the word *fronti*, the older gloss stands *heofulan*, and the younger hand has expunged the *h* to put *n* in its place. That this arose from ignorance cannot be doubted; the word heofula had ceased to be in use, and the younger scribe thought the only word that resembled it was neofula *umbilicus*. Had it been heofulan *genæ*, there would have been no difficulty, the Ohd. hiufelon being exactly parallel: but why *frons*? the heafela itself is

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a covering for the *cheeks*, it is the same as the eofor-líc ofer-hleor, *the boar-shaped cheek-guards*, l. 604. worn by Beowulf's followers. The relation between iu and áu in certain Gothic verbs, (which in A. S. have eó and eá,) as vowel of the pres. and præt. respectively renders it difficult to reject heófela and heáfela as two independent nouns, formed upon different tenses of the same verb, upon the præt. of which are also formed Got. háubiþ, *caput*, Ohd. houbit, A. S. heáfod, yet throughout the better portion of the MS. the word is never written heafola but hafela. It is remarkable that as late as Piers Plowman we have "*howues* (i. e. hoods) of silke." fol. iiii. Ed. 1550.

hearg-træf (m) l. 349. so I correct the inaccurate reading. The compound signifies *tabulatum templorum ethnicorum*, for hearg (m) O. Nor. havrgr (see Gloss. Ed. Sæm. vol. i. *in voc.* and particularly Helg. q. Had. 4.) Ohd. haruc, is a thoroughly heathen word, and is only found in very ancient glosses. e. g. Hrab, 959a. 963b. 969a. Jun. Gl. 212. In the following passages of Graff's Diutiska, it in general translates *lucus, delubrum*, the groves built by idolatrous Jewish kings; vol. i. p. 492, 495, 498, 513, 530, 532, and in p. 514b. *aruspicis* is translated by harugara. In A. S. hearg (? f) usually denotes *idolum*, as in the following passage of Ælfred's Gregory: And ealle þa hearga Israhela folces wæron atyfrede on þam wáge. MS. Bibl. Publ. Cant. Ii. 3. fol. 88, 89, but heargas (m) *id.* fol. 89. So Cod. Verc. i, 3379 hell-træf. vi. 1856. wearh-træf. And so again, of *idolatrous* worship. Cod. Verc. 2, 95. wig weorðian. In Beów. l. 350, wig-weorðung (f) is *cultus in templo*

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adhibitus; so Cod. Ex. fol. 68, weoh-weorþing. The first word here has nothing to do with wig *bellum*, much less does it create a Saxon god of that name; it is the O. Sax. wih (m) *templum* Hélj. 3, 4, 5, &c. O. Nor. we (n. pl.) *sacra*.

heaþo, a prefix denoting war, and probably representing a perished Goth. haþus, having moreover nothing whatever to do with heáh, *altus*. The corresponding Ohd. form hadu subsists in several proper names; Hadu-brant, Hadu-prant (*in bello splendens*), Hadu-frit, Hadu-funs (*in bellum paratus*), or is the *funs* a substantive and the meaning of the name, like Hadu-prant, *titio vel ignis belli?* (A. S. hilde-leóma.) Hadumár, (*gloriosus in pugna*) probably the Catumerus of Tacitus; but which is merely used as an epithet, heaðo-mére, in l. 5599 of our poem; (so the noble Spanish name of Bedamar, Goth. Badu-méris. A. S. Beado-mére.) so Catualda for Catu-walda, *rex pugnæ*. In A. S. the word is very common, and is exactly parallel in composition to hilde, beado, and gúð. Thus heaþo-byrne (gúð-byrne, hilde-byrne), heaþo-deór, (hilde-deór,) *bellua pugnæ*, heaþo-rinc, (beado-rinc, hilde-rinc, gúð-rinc, here-rinc,) heaðo-wæd, heaðo-lác, heaþo-bearn, heaðo-fyr, heaþo-láf, heaþo-reáf, heaþo-sceard, heaþo-swát, (hilde-swát,) *sanguis bello fusus*, heoþo-swenge, (heoro-swenge,) *ensis vibratio*, heaþo-weorc, heaþo-wylm; and in the adj. heaþo-grim, (beado-grim, heoro-grim, níð-grim, wæl-grim,) heaþo-róf, heaþo-seóc, *vulneratus*, heaþo-torht, all of which, and many besides, are found in Beówulf. The word heáþu in l. 3721, and in the compound heáþ-líðende l. 5901, is not the word explained above, but denotes *profunditates maris*.

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heoro-wearh (m) l. 2534. *lupus, monstrum.* The wyrgen in the word grund-wyrgen, l. 3036, I take to be the feminine of the word wearh; so it is soon after explained by the expression, brim-wylf. l. 3197.

here-pád (f) *lorica, vestis bellica,* l. 4510. Got. Páida. *tunica.* Mat. v. 40. Marc. vi. 6. Luc. iii. 2. O. Sax. péda. Hélj. 166, Ohd. Pfait or Pfeit. Gl. Cas. 854. Mhd. Pfeit. Dr. Grimm is therefore not quite correct when he says the word is not found in Saxon. Gr. vol. iii. 447. The following are epithets formed with *pád,* salwig-pád, Cod. Ex. 87b. salo-pád, *id.* 114b. salwig-páda (m) *qui vestem fulvum gerit.* Judith. p. 24. Æthelst. Ode. l. 121.

hós or hósu (f) *cætus, turma.* l. 1842. Though as far as I know this word is only found in the one passage quoted, there is no kind of difficulty about its meaning. It is the Goth. hansa, Ohd. hansa, and bears the usual relation to those forms which is found throughout A. S. words of the same kind, i. e. A. S. ós Got. ans. So A. S. gós. Ohd. kans. (A. S. gandra.) A. S. ós. Got. Ans. O. Nor. ás. *Deus, heros;* which word, though perhaps we have found it in a single instance uncompounded, remains unquestionably in such proper names as Os-weald, Os-beorht. So in the Interlinear Psalter. Bibl. Publ. Cant. (Ff. 1. 23. f. 186.) I find twiggu oððe hósa, (for which read ósa,) given as the translation of *rhamnos,* i. e. Got. ans. *trabes.* Mós (m. or n.) *edulium.* Mone. Quellen, etc. p. 396. Dial. Sal. and Sat. MSS. C.C.C. Cant. fol. 16. is the O. Sax. mós. Hélj. 31. 88. 139. and the Ohd. muos. Hoffmann. Fundgruben, etc. p. 384, and belongs to an entirely different order of words. Is this the case also with wós, *succus.* ealo-wosa. Cod. Ex. fol 87b.

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here-wósa. Cædm. 6. 255. probably here-wísa.

hoðma (m) perhaps *velamen, nubes?* l. 4911. Cod. Ex. 8b.

láf (f) *reliquiæ.* This word, which occurs in many compound words and phrases, very often denotes a *sword;* so ealde-láf, l. 1584. yrfe-láf, l. 3802. i. e. *potissima hereditas,* homera-láf, *ensis,* properly *malleorum relliquiæ,* l. 5654. Cod. Ex. 102b. Æthelst. Ode. l. 12. where see Mr. Price's note. (Warton. H. E. P. vol. i. lxxxix. Ed. 1824.)

regen. rén. This prefix, like þeód and mægen, is merely an intensative; so regn-heard, *valde durus,* l. 649. rén-weard, *custos strenuus,* l. 1533. regn-þeóf, Cædm. 212. Cod. Ex. 118: this word, probably in Gothic, ragin, *auctoritas, consilium,* as appears from raginón, ragineis, is found in O. Sax. and O. Nor. compounds. O. Sax. regin-scatho, Hélj. 163, 165. regin-blind, *penitus cæcus.* Helj. 109. O. Nor. regin-fiöll, *montes altissimi.* regin-diup, etc. see Lex. Mythol. Ed. Sæm. vol. iii. *in voc.* Regin.

umbor-wesende, l. 92, 2374. On this compound Dr. Grimm makes the following observations, (Gr. ii. 589, n.) "Umbor wesende. l. 92. does not belong to the acc. sing. *hine, ænne,* (which would require wesendne,) but to þe and on-sendon: consequently it is a nom. pl. But in l. 2374, umbor-wesendum is a dat. sing. or pl. Lye gives, though without citing his passage, umbor as equivalent to omber, amber, *amphora, cadus;* may umbor-wesende then mean one drunk with wine? whom we to this day are wont to call *wein-schlauch, wein-fass,* (conf. the name *amphora* for the *drinker,* Bonosus iu Vopiscus. Script. Hist. Ant. 2. 770.) The translation, l. 92, *qui eum initio ablegarunt solum per æquora temu-*

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lenti, and l. 2374, *quod nos ambo fecerimus in gratiam et honorem isti ebrioso (istis ebriosis)* cannot be at all tried by the context, since in both cases the narration is made only episodically. Umber, equivalent to omber, is however suspicious, because from the Ohd. eimpar, we should expect ómber, equivalent to ámber." With submission to Dr. Grimm, not only is the last consideration quite sufficient to overthrow his reading, but enough may be gathered from the context to enable us to give a shrewd guess at the meaning. In the Cod. Ex. fol. 89. we have these lines,

meotud ána wát
hwær se cwealm cymeð
þe heónon of cyððe ge-wíteð
umbor ýceð
þá ǽr adl nimeð.

umbor yceð, probably *miseriam auget*. In the first passage, umbor-wesende, *miseri*, if my conjecture be sound, is applied to a party of warriors who have just consigned to the deep the body of a beloved chieftain: in the second Wealhþeow appeals in favour of her sons to Hróðwulf, on the score of kindnesses done by her to him *in his misery*, that is when his father had been murdered.*

* Though there is an inaccuracy in umbor-wesende for wesendne, there is no doubt but that it is to be construed with hine: the same error is committed in l. 742. The whole refers to the exposure of Scyld, as an infant. For the account of which see the Preface to vol. ii. James Grimm does not agree with me in the translation of umbor ýceð; in the *Deutsche Mythologie*, which I hope is shortly to appear, there is the following note; "the passage perhaps means, nova proles addit (restituit), quos morbus aufert." Angel-Sachsische Stammtafeln. p. xviii. *note* 2.

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NAMES OF PERSONS, ETC.

MENTIONED IN BEOWULF.

Angles. Gár-mund, Offa,* Hreðel, and his sons Herebald, Hæðcyn and Higelác; the last is called the nephew of Swerting, who must therefore have been Hreðel's brother, and is not to be confounded with the Frisian or Old Saxon Swerting, by whom Fróda IV. of Denmark was slain. Offa is in our legend stated to be the nephew instead of the son and successor of Gármund, and to be of kin to Heming, a hero unknown to me. The Norse genealogies make no mention of Hreðel, and give Offa, Dan for a successor; this however signifies little, for it was the usual practice in these times for the sons to divide among themselves the whole inheritance, and every separate state therefore will give a separate line of succession. After the death of Herebald accidentally slain by Hæðcyn, the two brothers divided the kingdom, till Hæðcyn having fallen in battle against Ongenðeów, Higelác remained lord of the whole: but being slain in an unsuccessful inroad against the Frisians he was succeeded by his son Hardred; and this king having also fallen under the swords of the Sweónes, Beówulf, the hero of our tale, was called to the throne. He was a Wægmunding, deriving his blood from the kingly

* See Traveller's Song, l. 69.

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stock, and the son of Ecgðeów, who had to wife the sister of Higelác; but dying childless was succeeded by Wigláf, the son of Wihstán, his near kinsman, and the last survivor of the Wǽgmund family. Other heroes mentioned, not of royal blood, are Wulf and Iófor, the sons of Wonred, to the latter of whom Higelác married his daughter. An unnamed lady, the daughter of Hæreð, was Offa's wife or daughter-in-law, the latter of which suppositions is however the more probable from her being yet alive at the period of Beówulf's expedition to Denmark. The Angles are called Geátas, Wederas, Sǽ-Geátas, etc.

Danes, called also Eást-Dene, Gár-D. Hring-D. North-D. Súð-D. West-D. Of these, three mythic kings are mentioned, viz. Scéf, Scyld, Beówulf the Scylding. Their era must be placed before the birth of our Lord. In the fourth and fifth centuries, we have Halfdane, and his sons, Heorogár, Hróðgár* and Halga. Ingeld † and Fróda V, whose son Hróðwulf was associated with Hróðgár in the kingdom, and married to his daughter Freáwáre, were Halfdane's brothers, and Elan was their sister. Hróðgár by his queen Wealhþeów, a lady of the family of the Helmings, had two sons, Hreðríc and Hróðmund. This royal race are collectively called Ingwinas, which seems to be the same name as the Norse Ynglingar. Besides these a Heremód is named as reigning tyrannically over some part of Denmark, who may be the same person as that connected with Sigmund the Wælsing, in l. 1795, and

* See Traveller's Song. l. 89. † Id. l. 95.

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in the Hyndlv Lióð. 2. (Edd. Sæm. vol. i. 315.) Danish heroes, not of the blood royal, are Æschere, Hunferð, Wulfgar, Gúðlác, Hengest and Osláf.

Frisians. Fin, the son of Folcwalda:* his queen was Hildeburh, the descendant of Hoce; and her son, Hnæf,† slain in battle against Halfdane. Holings, very liberally given to Hnæf as his wife by some commentators, is not a lady but an adverb. A Hunláfing§ is mentioned as the slayer of Hengest, but this may be only a patronymic denoting Fin; Osláf and Gúðlác revenged this murder by the slaughter of Fin, the destruction of his city, and the abduction of his treasury and queen to Denmark. Another Frisian chieftain, slain by Beówulf, was Hugu or Hugh.

Heaðobeardnas. A tribe, stated in l. 4060, etc. and in the Traveller's Song, l. 98, to have been defeated under the walls of Heort by Hróðgár and Hróðwulf, are otherwise unknown to me.

Sweóas. Suiones. Their kings were Eádgils, probably the Adils of the Heims-kringla, and Athislus of Saxo; Ongenðeów,‡ and his sons Onela and Ohthere, at feud with Eádgils. Ongenðeow was slain in a battle against Higelác by Wulf and Iófor: in revenge Ohthere's sons ravaged Anglia and slew Hardred; but were in turn defeated and killed by Beówulf,

* See Traveller's Song. l. 53.

§ Thorpe however suggests, with great probability, that Hunlafing may only be the name of the sword with which Hengest was killed: according to the usual practice of the Saxons in naming their weapons, thus Hrunting. Nægling, &c.

† Id. l. 59. ‡ Id. l. 62.

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and Wihstán, who espoused the cause of Eádgils. By the hand of Wihstán, Ohthere's son, Eánmund is particularly recorded to have fallen. The sons of Ohthere are called Hereríc's nephews, and the whole race were Scylfings, among whom Hróðgár's sister was married.

These with the Franks,* once only mentioned; the Gifðas;† the Wioings;‡ the Wends, from among whom Wulfstán came into Hróðgár's service; the Brondings,§ whose king Brecca fought with Beówulf, and who lived in Ramesey; the Brentings; the Wylfings, (the Ylfingar of Hrolf-Kraki's history, and the Helga-quid. Hund. i. 5. Edd. Sæm. vol. ii. p. 57, and from whom sprang Sigurþr Fafnisbani); are the only races named in Beówulf.

Hermanaric, (Eormanríc)‖ the Ostro-Goth is introduced incidentally, l. 2402, as well as Hama, by whom he was slain, the Ammius of Jornandes. cap. xxxiv. The whole story, hinted at in the Edd. Sæm. vol. ii, p. 240. Sigurþ-quid. iii. 59. is told, at length, by Johannes Magnus, Lib. vi. c. 26. (p. 223 of the Roman folio,) and by Saxo, p. 157. Lib. viii., and may possibly have had some historical foundation, though it is quite impossible from the dates, that the daughter of Gudrun, Sigurþr's and afterwards Ættli's (Attila) wife, could have been married to Hermanaríc. The Brósinga mene (m), of which this prince was possessed, and the Norse Brísíngr men (n), the well known attribute of Freya, (Edd.

* See Traveller's Song. l. 47. † Id. l. 119.
‡ Id. l. 50 ?. § Id. l. 49. ‖ Id. l. 16, 175.

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Sæm. Þryms-quid. 13. vol. i. p. 187. and Edd. Snorr. fab. 30. Mythol.) was a famous collar. Its name is in the Gloss. to vol. i. of the Edd. Sæm. derived from its splendour, Nor. Brísing, *ignis vehemens.* Dr. Grimm, Gram. iii. 454. countenances another Etymon, but neither gets over the difficulty of Brósinga being a patronymic in the genitive pl. The origin of the name probably rests upon a myth as yet unknown to us; the reader will indeed find a very remarkable one in the Lexicon. Mythol. Edd. Sæm. vol. iii. *in voce* Brísingr.

Wéland, the famous smith, the Völundr of the Edd. Sæm. (vol. ii.) and the Welint of the Wilkina Saga is named as the maker of Beówulf's impenetrable corslet. And episodically, we have the tale of Fitela and his nephew, Sígmund the Wælsing, the Sigurþr Fafnisbani of the Edd. Sæm. (vol. ii.) the Sigurdur Swen of the Wilkina Saga, and many modern Danish legends, and the Sigfríd of the Nibelungen Lied. It has been hinted that Sígmund was nearly cotemporary with Beówulf: Torfæus, who is generally accurate, has striven very hard to bring Sigurþr Fafnisbani down to the time of Sigurþr Hring, i. e. eighth century: it is however very obvious how his mistake arose; later tradition had falsified history in order to give Ragnar Lodbrog a daughter of the great Sigurþr, and Torfæus chose to stand by this solitary and unauthoritative legend in opposition to all that was older and truer to history. Hermanaric, say Jornandes and the Edd. Sæm. slew Swanhilda, the daughter of Gudrun; he was thus traditionally, as well as in fact, contemporary with Attila. That this prince

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drew gradually into his traditional history the exploits of others, and more particularly those of Chlodowíc and his sons, in the matter of the Burgundian kingdom, is quite clear to any one who will take the pains to look over the accounts of the Burgundian war in Gregory of Tours, where scarcely a name of note in the Nibelungen cyclus is wanting; and what is strange enough, the Wilkina saga gravely assures us that Attila was a Frankish prince. If my belief be tenable that the date of Beówulf is the end of the fifth or beginning of the sixth century, we shall have additional and nearly contemporary evidence to the truth of the older story.

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